

Both sides stand firm as red tape keeps Westerners trapped in Baghdad

UN starts 'long haul to peace' with Iraq talks

By RICHARD OWEN IN AMMAN AND MICHAEL KNIFE IN LONDON

THE United Nations began talking to Iraq yesterday for the first time since the invasion of Kuwait a month ago, while red tape continued to hamper efforts to fly Western women and children home.

Nineteen Italians reached Ruweishid in Jordan and they will be flown home today by a special plane sent by the Italian president, Francesco Cossiga. But others hoping to leave were still waiting for exit visas and flight clearances.

In Amman, the UN secretary-general, Javier Pérez de Cuéllar, and the Iraqi foreign minister, Tariq Aziz, held two sessions of talks at the start of what they described as "the long haul to peace". After the first session, Señor Pérez de Cuéllar told reporters: "We discussed all aspects of the present situation. We are convinced these meetings are useful and important."

Both sides have emphasised that they are not in Amman to negotiate. Señor Pérez de Cuéllar insisted: "I have no secret peace plan." UN sources said the secretary-general had reminded Mr Aziz of the terms of the security council resolutions condemning Iraq's occupation of Kuwait.

Mr Aziz explained Iraq's long-standing grievances with Kuwait over oil and Baghdad's historical claims to the "security of the sea".

Mr Aziz said he was optimistic for the future of the Arab nation and that it would achieve its goals "in spite of the world conspiracy and challenges awaiting it. Our battle is historic and we shall wage it with manliness and honour."

While the two men were talking at the Jordanian royal palace, King Hussein was at Downing Street on the latest leg of his mediation tour, and the Arab League met in Cairo where it drew up a five-point blueprint for peace.

The league demanded that Iraq should withdraw unconditionally from Kuwait and pay war damages, but King Hussein shares President Saddam Hussein's view that a withdrawal should be linked to moves to resolve the Arab-

Israeli dispute. That stance provoked clashes at his meeting with Margaret Thatcher yesterday, and officials said the two were as far apart as ever after two hours of discussions. The king, however, said that he felt they had a better understanding of each other's positions.

Whitehall sources said the two leaders agreed on the need for an Iraqi withdrawal, for sanctions to be rigorously applied and for renewed efforts to resolve the Arab-Israeli dispute. Mrs Thatcher said the world was facing aggression by a dictator and that there was no question of negotiation.

King Hussein assured Mrs Thatcher that his country would enforce the sanctions, and the prime minister in turn promised Jordan help to cope with the difficulties that and the influx of refugees would cause. Before the meeting, Mrs Thatcher had spoken to President Bush by telephone for 25 minutes, during which the president had outlined his

plans to ask allies for financial support for the Gulf enterprise. He also called President Mitterrand of France and King Fahd of Saudi Arabia.

Mr Bush said on Thursday that he would send delegations to Europe, Asia and the Gulf to explain his ideas. Japan said yesterday that while it would welcome talks with an American envoy, it would not increase its offer of \$1 billion (£520 million) towards the multinational force.

West Germany, implicitly criticised by America and Mrs Thatcher for the paucity of its efforts on Thursday, said it would support Mr Bush's call for contributions. "We are part of this community working together and will behave accordingly."

The European Commission indicated that it is likely to approve plans to offer hundreds of millions of pounds in aid to countries such as Jordan, Egypt and Turkey next week. Yesterday it released a further 1.3 million euros (about £900,000) in emergency aid to help to repatriate refugees streaming into Jordan, taking the total pledged by the community to nearly \$4 million. The World Bank also said it was ready to assist needy countries.

European centre-right political parties yesterday reinforced Mrs Thatcher's criticism of some countries' "hesitant" response - an attack described by Italy yesterday as uncharitable and unjustified - with a call for those yet to send forces to the Gulf to do so or back the military effort with money.

Meanwhile, Foreign Office officials continued to work towards the airlift of British women and children. An Iraqi Airways flight arranged by the Iraqi authorities was due to bring 139 hostages from Baghdad to London, but Iraq had supplied no information on the aircraft's intended departure time. The Foreign Office has been given the names of the people scheduled to join the flight and told relatives.

Naji al-Hadi, Baghdad's information director, said 237 Westerners would be flown to London and Paris on Iraqi Airways aircraft, which would bring home Iraqis who wanted to leave the two capitals. Mr Hadi said that no Western women and children were left at military or economic sites that could have been targets for an attack, but he said foreign men were still being held at potential targets all over the country.

"Every place, every town that has a vital installation will host our guests," he said. Kurdish rebels reported yesterday that four groups, mainly British and American, were being held at three dams, an airbase and an oilfield in northern Iraq.

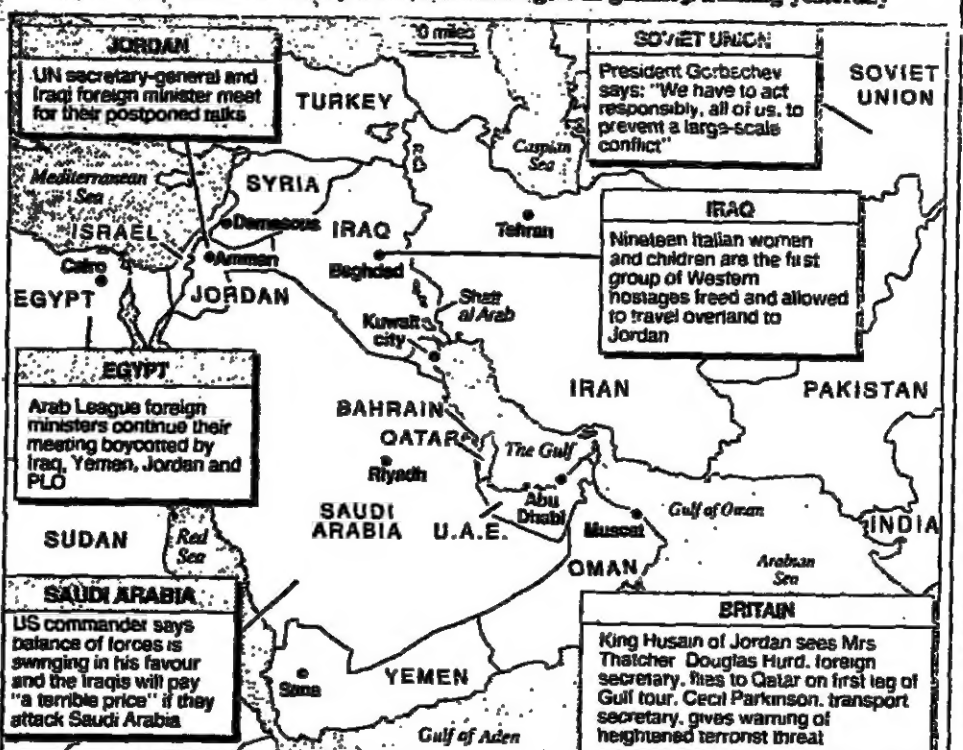
In London, Cecil Parkinson, the transport secretary, gave a warning about the possibility of terrorist attacks on civilian targets such as airlines. "We need to be even more vigilant than usual."

Douglas Hurd, the foreign secretary, flew to Qatar yesterday on the first leg of his six-nation tour of the Gulf. He will return to London on Wednesday in time to report to Parliament, which is being recalled for a two-day debate on the Gulf on Thursday.

Tony Benn, the Labour MP for Chesterfield, plans to force a vote to give MPs an opportunity to oppose the government line on the issue.



The face of war, 1990: on one of the Australian frigates sailing to the Gulf, Petty Officer Quartermaster Terry Croft selects targets in gunnery training yesterday



De Klerk opens party to all races

From GAVIN BELL IN DURBAN

PRESIDENT de Klerk shattered the mould of South African politics yesterday by declaring that his governing National Party should be open to all races, and seek alliances with all those who shared its goals.

In the space of a few minutes at the Natal provincial congress, Mr de Klerk transformed the party which gave the world apartheid into a driving force for multiracial democracy. A standing ovation by visibly excited delegates, all of them white, signalled that blacks and other races would become eligible to join their ranks for the first time since the party was founded in 1915.

The reform is almost certain to be approved by congresses in the Cape, Orange Free State and Transvaal over the next three months, allowing the leadership to effect the necessary changes in the party constitution by the end of the year.

In a preamble, Mr de Klerk said power-sharing implied a joint decision-making, and a realignment of party politics was inevitable. He insisted that it was essential that the basis of future co-operation should be laid now, or opportunities would be lost.

He therefore proposed that the party work to form alliances, or a broad political movement, which united those with common goals and shared convictions.

Existing restrictions on membership were in conflict with the party's opposition to racial discrimination, and constituted an obstacle to forming alliances. To sustained applause, he urged delegates "to make membership of the national party accessible to all South Africans".

The president said that a committee drawn from all four provinces would be formed to work out the details of multiracial membership and alliance strategies for forthcoming negotiations on a new constitution. It would also advise on detailed constitutional proposals, and would report to the party's federal council as soon as possible.

Endeavouring to reassure anxious whites, he said: "The government is prepared to share power, but it will not give it away. Minorities will not be sold out. What has been built will not be destroyed. Standards will be maintained. Quality of life will be extended to all South Africans, that is all."

In a blistering attack on the far right conservative party, the president said its policies were a recipe for revolution. "People will say now the CP is the only party for whites, but it is a dead end. The CP would

Continued on page 22, col 6

Saturday Review

Puttnam back with a belle



David Puttnam, after a bruising experience among the Hollywood moguls, returns to the screen as the producer of *Memphis Belle*

Chess and other moves

World champion Garry Kasparov talks about his forthcoming title defence and he explains the extent of his political ambitions

This land is my land

American Indians are fighting a new battle, this time for the land they lost in bloodier circumstances

WEEKEND LIVING

Cartland in the Highlands



A visit to romantic novelist Barbara Cartland at her hideaway in the Highlands

On Monday

EDUCATION '91

Education is one of the hottest issues in Britain today and on Monday *The Times* marks the beginning of the academic year with a 44-page supplement which tackles those issues and talks to the people who shape them

Where are the teachers?

Two teachers on the reasons for their discontent and a look at the extent of teacher importation from around the globe

Views from the ministry

Too dry by half? The new schools minister explains his thinking and discusses the myths and realities of present government education policy

University challenge

Decisions are being made that will shape higher education beyond the year 2000. What direction are we taking, and is it the right one?

To be sure of Monday's *Times*, order your copy today

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Pound slumps as UK rates lose attraction

By RODNEY LORD ECONOMICS EDITOR

STERLING slumped as it lost its status as a financial safe haven in the Gulf confrontation. Investors had been attracted by Britain's interest rates and its role as a net oil exporter. Opec's agreement to make up for lost oil production and Japan's interest rate rise made British rates seem less profitable, however. Sterling was also hit by talk of a move into the exchange-rate mechanism of the European Monetary System this weekend at DM2.95. The pound fell 1.2 points to 95 on its trade-weighted index.

Details, page 33

Jackson adds another gold for Britain

By OUR SPORTS STAFF

COLIN Jackson added the European 110 metres hurdles title to the Commonwealth crown he won in New Zealand last winter as British athletics gained their second one-two at the European championships in Split, Yugoslavia, yesterday. After labouring to third place in Thursday's semi-finals, Jackson recovered good form, if not his best, to hold off the determined challenge of Tony Jarrett and take the gold in 13.18 sec.

Details, pages 23, 24

Soviet economy reforms falter

From MARY DEJEVSKY IN MOSCOW

PRESIDENT Gorbachev reported only limited progress last night at the end of what he described as a faithful meeting to decide the future of the Soviet economy.

The policy meeting at the Kremlin to complete plans for the Soviet Union's transition to a market economy failed to agree on key elements of policy and has delegated responsibility for the final document to a new committee.

The conclusions of the meeting, which was unexpectedly extended to two full days, were reported in general terms by President Gorbachev last night. He described the meeting of the Presidential Council, the Council of the Federation, which comprises

leaders of all the Soviet Union's 15 republics, and other figures, as "one of the most important events of perestroika". The more he said, however, the clearer it was that two days of talks with what he described as "many dramatic moments" had produced only limited progress. "We reached the best, most adequate solution we could," he said.

Mr Gorbachev said there would be a six-month period of "stabilisation", during which price controls for specified goods would progressively be relaxed. But the prime minister, Nikolai Ryzhkov, will be a member of the new drafting committee and is expected to stick to the fundamentals of his programme. The Soviet leader announced that the meeting had set up a new committee, to comprise leaders of the republics, the chairman of the Supreme Soviet, Anatoli Lukyanov, Mr Ryzhkov, and himself as president, to consider the final drafts of two rival economic drafts. One is the revised government programme overseen by Mr Ryzhkov, the other is based on an initial draft for the Russian Federation outlined by the economic team of the Russian president, Boris Yeltsin, but formulated by the personal advisers of Mr Gorbachev and Mr Yeltsin and supervised by the two

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Cigarette row, page 9

Sweltering August rewrites the history books

By LIN JENKINS

AUGUST 1990 has been the hottest in Britain since scientific readings were first logged in 1659. And to mark this latest fact for trivia-lovers, the London Weather Centre yesterday allowed *The Times* to raid its archives for the years whose place in the record charts has now been changed for ever.

August 1736, the oldest date on the list of the top ten, marked the death of the German physician Daniel Fahrenheit. He was the first to use mercury instead of spirits of wine for thermometers, and it was with his scale that the weathermen of the day could gleefully report the hottest summer since records began in 1659. In what is now the seventh

hottest August on record, 1899, Mrs Hitchcock, a greengrocer's wife, gave birth to her famous son Alfred, film director and master of suspense, in a tiny east London flat.

August 1736 this year drops to eighth hottest and merits a mention in the history books only for a particularly bloody skirmish between the Russians and the Ottoman Empire. The highlights of the sweltering August of 1911, fifth on the list, which also marked the hottest day on record until August 3rd this year, are better documented.

As 2,500 children in London alone died in the sweltering heat, MPs in the House of Commons braved the Turkish bath temperatures to vote themselves a pay increase to £400.

That year, too, a big transport strike, affecting the railways and docks, brought 50,000 armed troops onto the streets of the capital amid fears of a popular uprising. The fears were unfounded; it was probably too hot.

Across the Channel, Vincenzo Perrugia, a waiter, posed as photographer to pull off one of the greatest art thefts in history when he walked into the Louvre and stole the Mona Lisa. Da Vinci's masterpiece spent the next two years under Perrugia's bed before it was recovered.

August 1975 is easier to recall and most people can remember the blistering temperatures unsurpassed until this year when central England recorded a mean temperature of 18.8°C in August, slightly higher than the

18.7°C of 1975. While the month saw the highest temperature ever recorded in Britain when on August 3 Cheltenham reached 37.1°C, rainfall was higher than popularly perceived with 43.5 millimetres falling, making it the 33rd driest since rainfall records began in 1727.

The hottest month on record was July 1983 with a mean of 19.6°C. September is set to begin with a showery weekend giving way to warm, bright and sunny weather next week before the remnants of hurricane Gustav sweeps from Bermuda across the north Atlantic to south of Greenland bringing rain towards the end of next week.

THE INVASION OF KUWAIT: INTERNATIONAL PRESSURE

Hawks begin to bristle as American nerves start fraying

FROM CHARLES BREMNER
IN WASHINGTON

AFTER a week dominated by hopes for diplomacy in the Gulf, US officials have begun signalling that Washington still sees little likely alternative to military action as the means of breaking Iraq's grip on Kuwait.

President Bush and his senior advisers, most of them now enjoying the Labour Day holiday weekend, are coming to the view that, despite the unprecedented international consensus on sanctions, time may be on the side of President Saddam Hussein and that the US must choose its action within about eight weeks if diplomacy fails. Congressmen who were briefed by Mr Bush this week were reported in *The Washington Post* yesterday to have left the White House "fairly certain that within the

next two months the United States would lose its mighty war-making powers on Saddam Hussein".

President Saddam is now said to believe he can withstand the embargo for up to a year and has decided to play for time to wear down international and US resolve with a war of nerves. The manipulation of the hostages this week was just one tactic, officials say. A CIA assessment presented to Mr Bush on Thursday estimated that the Iraqi leader could hold off an internal revolt for up to two years. Mr Bush, who has not included President Saddam's removal as a US goal, says that he has no quarrel with the Iraqi people and hopes that they will topple their president. A number of Mr Bush's allies in Congress are calling on him to ensure the departure of President Saddam. Senator Richard Lugar, the senior Republican on the

foreign relations committee and a friend of the president, said: "My own view is that he does have to leave the leadership of the country."

In the Gulf, US commanders are reporting that Iraqi forces have been ordered to avoid at all costs anything that could provoke a US retaliation. Iraqi warplanes are avoiding US aircraft, Iraqi ships are no longer challenging the blockade and Iraqi forces are fortifying the Kuwait coast.

Although the president has promised to allow as much time as it takes for sanctions to bite and for diplomacy to work, many in the administration are convinced that a stalemate cannot be allowed to last beyond Christmas. By that stage the wave of patriotic war fever — now shared by many in Congress — will have waned and the economic costs of the huge Desert Shield deployment

will be hitting hard. International resolve will also be crumbling.

President Saddam could take comfort this week from the first signs that the Gulf operation is beginning to wear down the nerves of the US public. According to psychiatrists, all the images of fearful separations and endless television reports on hostages have been breeding a sense of uncertainty, anxiety and fear among the US people. Another rising argument was voiced yesterday by the popular *USA Today* newspaper.

"Why should we wreck our economy to protect one of the most anti-democratic, anti-female sheikdoms in the world?" If no diplomatic settlement appears, the crunch for the administration will come in about six weeks, the time when enough US troops and tanks will be in place to enable the United States to take on the Iraqi Army if necessary. Mr Bush

will be forced to ponder over the exceedingly hard options: whether to "continue sitting in the sand with the job undone or go on the offensive and get the guy out", as one diplomat put it.

According to reports leaked yesterday, the president's national security advisers and some US allies, including Saudi Arabia and Israel, are telling him that they see a large-scale military action as the best option if diplomacy and sanctions fail to produce results within two or three months. European diplomats yesterday dismissed reports here that Mrs Thatcher was also trying to stiffen Mr Bush's resolve. The prime minister spoke to Mr Bush by telephone yesterday about his drive to persuade the allies to help finance the Gulf operation. There was not a chink of light between the US and British stances, the diplomats said.

Saudi Arabia is reported to have told Richard Cheney, the secretary of defence, that it makes no sense for their country to have paid the considerable political price for installing the huge US expeditionary force on their territory without dismantling the menace of President Saddam.

Legal case: The administration is constructing a legal case against President Saddam for possible use at a future war crimes trial, according to the US officials quoted in the *Los Angeles Times* (Susan Elliott writes).

US officials have started to compile a list of the Iraqi leader's breaches of international law, past and present. These include using chemical weapons, capturing hostages, kidnapping diplomats, violating embassies and holding people against their will at military installations.

Pérez de Cuéllar and Aziz begin their 'long haul to peace'

FROM RICHARD OWEN IN AMMAN

JAVIER Pérez de Cuéllar, the United Nations secretary-general, and Tariq Aziz, the Iraqi foreign minister, yesterday sought to gloss over deep differences and begin what both sides described as the long haul to peace.

The talks began at the Jordanian Royal Palace and then moved to the UN offices in Amman. At one point Señor Pérez de Cuéllar emerged to describe the meeting as "very useful". Later the talks adjourned for several hours so that Mr Aziz could hold consultations with President Saddam Hussein in Baghdad.

Mr Aziz said that he and Señor Pérez de Cuéllar had begun a process of "direct talks" between Baghdad and the Western powers, above all the United States.

As the talks got under way a party of 13 Italian women and six children crossed the land border between Jordan and Iraq at Ruweishid, the first to be released since President Saddam promised that foreign families could leave.

There was no hint of compromise by Iraq over the UN demands for an Iraqi withdrawal from Kuwait and the release of all the Western

hostages. Mr Aziz said he was "optimistic for the future of the Arab nation," a phrase which could mean that Baghdad was hopeful of a positive outcome. But Arab sources said that he had meant that Baghdad was confident — or wanted the world to believe it was confident — that its aims could be fulfilled. Iraq argues that annexation of Kuwait is in the interests of the "Arab nation", though a majority of the Arab League is ranged against Baghdad's action.

Some diplomats saw Mr Aziz's rhetoric as masking the beginning of an Iraqi climb-down. Mr Aziz said: "The Arab nation will achieve its goals despite the world conspiracy and challenges awaiting it." He added: "Our battle is historic. And we shall wage it with manliness and honour. Victory will belong to the Arab nation, God willing."

But Mr Aziz also emphasised the role of the Secretary-General as mediator, noting that during the eight-year Gulf war between Iran and Iraq, he had acted as a conduit between the belligerents.

Señor Pérez de Cuéllar said that his talks with Mr Aziz were the beginning of a pro-

cess, and did not amount to negotiations. "I have no secret peace plan," he declared.

UN sources said Señor Pérez de Cuéllar had reminded Mr Aziz of the terms of the five Security Council resolutions condemning Iraq's occupation of Kuwait and imposing sanctions on Baghdad. In reply, Mr Aziz explained Iraq's long-standing grievances with Kuwait over oil and Baghdad's historical claims to the territory.

Mr Aziz conceded that his talks with Señor Pérez de Cuéllar had taken place in Amman because he was unable to fly to United Nations headquarters in either New York or Geneva, an admission of the isolation imposed on Baghdad by the sanctions.

Jordanian officials said that the situation of refugees in Jordan was worsening. Crown Prince Hassan, who also met Señor Pérez de Cuéllar, said that 76,000 refugees were now assembled at Ruweishid and at two emergency camps. "Children are going to die out there," the Crown Prince said.

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Leading article, page 11
Letters, page 11

'No safeguard' for hostages if allied forces intervene

BY OUR FOREIGN STAFF

IRAQ would drop its "moral commitment" to safeguard the lives of American, British, French and other Western hostages held in Iraq if America and its allies sustained their threat of military intervention, Tariq Aziz, the Iraqi foreign minister, told the French newspaper *Le Figaro* yesterday in his first interview with a Western paper since Iraq invaded Kuwait.

The declaration will do little to reassure British women and children waiting with increasing exasperation as their plans for departure from Baghdad are delayed.

Asked whether his country categorically rejected the use of terrorism, Mr Aziz said it depended on the attitude of the West. "If the West declares war, then our obligations (towards our former renoun-

ation of terrorism) no longer stand," he said. The Iraqi government's break with Abu Nidal in 1983 was heralded as an attempt by Saddam Hussein to turn his back on Arab terrorist groups.

Mr Aziz, in an apparent attempt to avoid jeopardising his talks with the UN Secretary-General in Amman yesterday, refused to be drawn into saying that Iraq's invasion of Kuwait would not be negotiable. The Arab world should be allowed to settle the conflict without Western interference, but it was "premature", he added, to assume that in such a case Arab states would merely be presented with Kuwait's annexation to Iraq as a fait accompli.

The foreign minister, aged 53, a highly experienced diplomat and a long-standing ally of President Saddam sought to portray every Iraqi move since the "rightful" invasion of Kuwait as defensive against the Western crusade.

America, he said, had mustered widespread UN support only because its allies needed American money or feared its power. This was all the worse now that the Soviet Union was no longer an effective counterbalance to the US, he said.

With particularly quixotic logic, he likened Iraq's hostage-taking to a man who shields himself behind the wife of another who is about to attack him.



King Hussein and Mrs Thatcher talking at Downing Street yesterday

Thatcher and Husain fail to resolve sharp differences

BY MICHAEL KNIFE, DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

MARGARET Thatcher and King Hussein of Jordan failed to reduce their sharp differences over how to resolve the Gulf crisis in their talks at Downing Street yesterday. They specifically clashed over what the prime minister regards as the king's willingness to grant Iraq concessions to Iraq in return for getting out of Kuwait.

King Hussein said after the talks that he believed he and Mrs Thatcher had a better understanding of each other's position. Whitehall sources, however, said they remained "quite far apart" in their assessment of the causes of the dispute and ways to resolve it.

The Jordanian monarch sees the crisis in a broader perspective than the British government and is seeking to defuse the explosive situation in the Gulf by promoting a

dialogue between the international community and President Saddam Hussein. He shares President Saddam's view that a withdrawal should be linked to moves to resolve the Arab-Israeli dispute.

In contrast Mrs Thatcher, believes it important to concentrate on the fundamental issue, the invasion of Kuwait and the need for an Iraqi withdrawal. She regards the Iraqi leader as a tyrant and dismisses the prospect of negotiating with him. Not surprisingly, therefore, the talks were described by government sources as "very frank and plainly spoken".

The two leaders know and respect each other and so were not inhibited by the need to be circumspect.

Afterwards King Hussein said he believed his relationship with Mrs Thatcher was

"as good as it had ever been". He said Jordan had made it clear it abided by UN sanctions but, in an implicit reference to Israel's occupation of the West Bank, he said Jordan had over many years for such measures to be applied in other areas as well.

To resolve the confrontation the king is believed to favour an initiative that would station Arab instead of Western forces in the Gulf area. But he said as he left Downing Street that he was not bearing a peace plan.

Whitehall sources said the two leaders agreed on the need for an Iraqi withdrawal from Kuwait, the need for United Nations sanctions to be rigorously applied and the need for renewed efforts to try to resolve the Arab-Israeli dispute.

Freedom flight held up by Iraqi red tape

BY MICHAEL KNIFE, DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

THE departure of the first group of British women and children from Iraq was delayed yesterday by what appeared to be bureaucratic red tape.

An Iraqi Airways flight, arranged by the Iraqi authorities, was due to carry 139 hostages from Baghdad to London. But a Foreign Office spokesman said the situation in Baghdad remained confused and the Iraqis had not supplied any information on the aircraft's intended departure time.

The Foreign Office has been given the names of the people scheduled to be on board and has informed their relatives.

The Iraqi authorities were providing exit visas and British embassy officials in Baghdad had been given consular access to the passengers at the Mansour Melia Hotel where they were being held to assist in providing travel documents. It was the first access British diplomats had had for some days and they reported that the hostages were in "reasonably good health".

Naji al-Hadithi, an Iraqi government spokesman, said a total of 237 Western foreigners would be flown to London and Paris on Iraqi Airways planes. The planes would return with an unspecified number of Iraqis who, he said, were stranded in the two capitals by the "brutal American sanctions".

He described this as a "humanitarian request", adding "we hope the two governments will reply quickly and positively".

The Foreign Office said any Iraqis who wished to travel to Baghdad were free to do so — unlike British citizens in Iraq. There are estimated to be between 5,000 and 6,000 Iraqi nationals living in Britain.

Mr al-Hadithi said the foreign women and children include 123 Britons, 66 Japanese, 19 French, 14 Americans, two Australians and four of unspecified nationalities. He also said an unspecified number of women and children from other countries that he did not name were "in principle" free to leave immediately but their governments had to make arrangements for their departure.

However, he said foreign men still held in Iraq were being kept at potential military targets. "Every place, every town that has a vital installation will host our guests," he said. "We're relocating the foreign men all over the country at airports, air bases, military bases, industrial plants, communication centres — wherever Iraq considers it has a vital installation, one exposed to the American threat."

Cecil Parkinson, the transport secretary, said last night that the government had been in constant touch with British Airways and Virgin Atlantic since the beginning of the conflict, and was ready to move "as soon as we have the necessary assurances from the Iraqi authorities". He also gave a warning about the

dangers facing British interests due to the Middle East situation and the possibility of terrorist attacks on civilian targets "such as our airlines".

A Virgin Airways jet is on standby today from 2pm for takeoff from London's Gatwick airport. But it will not take off until the Iraqi jet has left Baghdad. Richard Branson, head of Virgin, said Virgin would airlift nationals from other countries as well.

Last night Iraq extended its permission for a Virgin aircraft to land for another 24 hours.

The airline dismissed alleged criticism by a relative of one hostage held in Iraq that it was engaged in a publicity stunt. A spokesman said Virgin had only set up contingency plans at the request of the defence ministry at the start of the conflict four weeks ago and that 15 per cent of passengers due to fly with Virgin this weekend had cancelled because of the uncertainty.

Iraq yesterday freed 19 Italian women and children and allowed them to travel overland to Jordan, while an alarming report from United Nations officials said nearly 700,000 refugees from Iraq and Kuwait were trying to escape to Iran and Turkey.

MOSCOW

Wide rifts in policy on conflict

FROM MARY DELEVSKY
IN MOSCOW

MOSCOW'S united front on policy towards the Gulf, carefully cultivated since Iraq's invasion of Kuwait, has started to fall apart. Divisions which were discernible only in hints and signals and a reluctance by Moscow to subscribe to any United Nations Security Council resolution approving the use of force, have started to emerge as wide rifts in attitude.

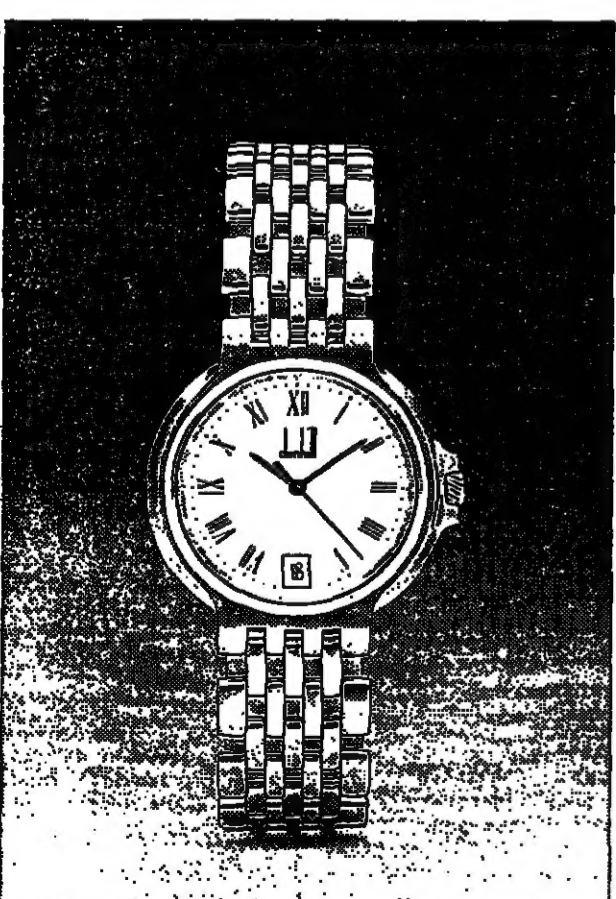
The divisions have become apparent on three quite separate issues: the continued presence of Soviet military and other specialists in Iraq; the American military presence in Saudi Arabia; and the wisdom of breaking with Iraq in the first place. On each a fragile consensus seemed to have been established, which is now being challenged.

The presence of more than 6,000 Soviet specialists in Iraq, only 193 of them officially classified as military experts, had been rushed into the background by the urgency of evacuating Soviet citizens from Kuwait and women and children from Iraq. With that evacuation well under way, the role of the specialists has become more conspicuous.

The approach adopted by a defence ministry spokesman ten days ago and adhered to by most officials and commentators since is that the presence of all the specialists in no way contravened the security council resolution on sanctions because they were not engaged in commercial activity. The line was that they would be withdrawn at the end of their contracts.

Eduard Shevardnadze, the foreign minister, conceded last Sunday, however, that while their presence might be legitimate it had "a moral aspect" and might be reconsidered.

On Thursday the Soviet parliament's foreign affairs committee called for the presence of specialists in Iraq to be reviewed as soon as the evacuation of women and children is complete. The previous day a declaration issued by the officially sponsored Peace Committee and other similar organisations had called for the immediate withdrawal of all specialists. Both statements appeared to be volleys in a debate proceeding behind the scenes.



INDIVIDUALITY. A CLASSIC TIMEPIECE THAT REPRESENTS THE PINNACLE OF THE WATCHMAKERS ART THE STEEL AND YELLOW METAL ELITE PART OF A COMPLETE RANGE OF WATCHES FROM ALFRED DUNHILL

dunhill

VISIT ALFRED DUNHILL IN LONDON AT DUKE STREET ST JAMES'S THE BURLINGTON ARCADE 5 SLOANE STREET AND AT ALFRED DUNHILL IN HARRODS AND SELFREDUCE WATCHES ALSO AVAILABLE AT WATCHES OF SWITZERLAND LTD THE GOLDSMITHS COLOUR HARRODS WATCH DEPARTMENT AND LEADING JEWELLERS

WASHINGTON

Spies in the sky play part in battle of wills

FROM SUSAN ELLICOTT
IN WASHINGTON

WITH the stalemate in the Middle East becoming a battle of wills, the United States is relying heavily on its intelligence gadgetry to keep an edge over Iraq. President Saddam Hussein in his palace may be getting most of his information about the US build-up from the round-the-clock Cable Network News but America, with the help of a fleet of spy satellites, can see the tracks left by every tank he has shifted across the desert sand.

American reconnaissance experts hope their technical superiority in intelligence gathering will compensate for the lack of human spies working on the ground. Reports here say America has found itself short of traditional spies in Iraq after gradually shifting its attention away from former communist adversaries.

The Bush administration's policy-

makers and strategists are counting on their spy satellites as part of covert operations directed against Iraq. According to experts, the surveillance becomes increasingly important as the stand-off continues without either conflict or a diplomatic solution.

Such surveillance could easily tip the balance in America's favour if the stand-off breaks into military conflict. Intelligence experts describe the desert as a dream environment for space espionage since there are no trees, valleys or mountains to obstruct the view.

"Our capability to observe exactly what is going on is great," said Ray Cline, a former deputy director of the Central Intelligence Agency. "Iraq has an enormous military force but if we continue the collection of data we could wipe them out very quickly."

But he gave a warning that America tended to "rely on technology and gadgetry" while "the real problem is

looking into the hearts and minds of leaders".

The US intelligence is so accurate that General Norman "Stormin' Norman" Schwarzkopf, the commander of America's forces in the Middle East, was able to warn the Joint Chiefs of Staff about Iraq's pending invasion down to the last tank almost six weeks before it was launched. The US system would give about 12 to 24 hours' warning of an attack by Iraq.

This week administration officials said that the CIA, some special US forces and other government agencies have been supplying intelligence to the Kuwaiti resistance. President Bush, a former CIA director, declined to say whether the US was covertly supporting fighters who have intimidated Iraqi troops inside Kuwait. But he said he supported the members of the resistance movement.

Suggesting the United States is helping the overall movement, one

defence official told *The Washington Post* that the administration had a report on the resistance movement that was classified at a level reserved for covert operations. The CIA has refused to comment on a mass of reports soon after the Iraqi invasion that Mr Bush had authorised it to put together plans aimed at removing President Saddam from power.

Although Iraq's intelligence systems are no match for those of the United States, Washington still faces the problem of President Saddam's unpredictability until it has completed its troop deployment — expected to take another seven weeks. US spy satellites are sensitive enough to monitor battlefield communications and look through camouflage into underground tunnels night and day. The most powerful of its craft that orbit hundreds of miles above the earth can reportedly read the number-plate on a car.

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Smuggling unlikely to help Iraq beat siege

From MICHAEL THEODOULOU IN NICOSIA

WESTERN analysts say no amount of smuggling can help Iraq survive the economic siege, despite the confidence of some of its allies. Smuggling would put only a tiny dent in the blockade but could never provide enough to feed Iraq's fast-growing population of 17 million, they believe. Iraq imports nearly 70 per cent of its food, and rationing begins today. With its belt-tightening programme, which encourages housewives to cut their family's food consumption by half, it is estimated that Iraq may have enough food to last up to six months. But the psychological impact of being under siege will increase domestic pressure on President Saddam Hussein well before the cupboard is bare. Iraq's allies face serious difficulties in getting supplies in by conventional routes. Cyprus yesterday turned down a request from Libya to allow six flights, beginning on September 6, to overfly its air space on the way to Baghdad. Aviation experts said alternative routes would be circuitous, costly and doomed to failure because other countries would also refuse permission for overflights. There have been reports that Libya and perhaps Tunisia plan to fly in food and medical supplies to Iraq, using Yemen and Sudan as staging posts and air bridges. An aviation expert said that to avoid Saudi air space flights from Yemen would have to fly over the Gulf but would again run into problems with the air spaces of Qatar, Bahrain and possibly Iran. There have been reports that Yemen has been flying in food by an unknown route, but experts said there was no need for an air blockade yet. "Even if some rogue flights made it in, they could never meet a fraction of Iraq's needs," a Western economist in Nicosia said. "Look at the huge airlifts that are needed just to keep 50,000 American troops supplied in Saudi Arabia, is Washington's cop on the beat."

DHAHRAN America's cop on the desert beat

From NICHOLAS BEESTON IN DHAHRAN

IF AMERICA is the world's policeman then General H. Norman Schwarzkopf, the larger than life commander in chief of US forces in Saudi Arabia, is Washington's cop on the beat. An imposing character with an infectious chuckle, the West Point graduate and former football player can turn quickly from a jovial uncle figure to the man everyone looks to for justice.

"What you have got here is a situation where not only is there mugging but a rape has occurred," said General Schwarzkopf in an outburst against Iraq's invasion of Kuwait. "Spartan Norman," as he is called by his men, arrived in Saudi Arabia five days ago to take personal charge of the biggest airlift of US forces since the Vietnam war. After his first inspection of some of the estimated 60,000 US personnel now deployed in the north-east of the country, he emphasised the defensive role of Operation Desert Shield and insisted that his mission was to protect Saudi Arabia and not to invade Iraq or retake occupied Kuwait.

But he left in no doubt his personal animosity towards his counterparts and the numerically superior Iraqi forces lined up against him. "This is H. Norman Schwarzkopf speaking. I think they are a bunch of thugs," he said, and went on to consider his enemy's morale. "I hope it is lousy. I hope it is really terrible. I hope they are hungry, thirsty and out of ammunition and I hope they feel very badly about what they did. Because they should."

Although describing the Iraqi forces' disposition as defensive, he said that it could quickly become offensive and admitted that the Pentagon had been taken completely by surprise when President Saddam Hussein ordered his troops to invade Kuwait. "We knew exactly what the Iraqis were doing, we knew exactly what their dispositions were, and I think the world misjudged their intention. It certainly came as a surprise to me."

The success or failure of the US operation in Saudi Arabia will rest largely on General Schwarzkopf's ability in the field. He emphasised that the US force currently in place and growing larger every day was strong enough to meet any Iraqi threat. There were long queues at bakeries in Baghdad, residents said. Refugees fleeing Iraq earlier this week also reported long queues outside food shops in smaller desert towns. Flour, rice, dried beans, grain, powdered milk and meat had disappeared from shops, the Baghdad sources said. Pharmacy shelves were empty of medicines. (AP)



Desert sunrise: US 82nd Airborne Division troops on guard in Saudi Arabia yesterday after a night digging trenches and filling sandbags

Saddam shows two faces to the world

By CHRISTOPHER WALKER, MIDDLE EAST CORRESPONDENT

LIKE the classic secret police interrogator, President Saddam Hussein this week showed two different faces to those ranged against him. By decreeing the release of all foreign women and children held in Iraq and Kuwait, he sought to portray himself as a conciliator. At the same time the declaration of Kuwait as Iraq's nineteenth province and the distribution of maps to flaunt it have shown him in a more familiar, uncompromising light. The hard-pressed corps of diplomats in Baghdad, many of whom have been refused permission to leave, are used to the unpredictability of their host. They detect in his strategy a plan to draw out the confrontation into a long haul.

"The game plan from the bunker would be to try to recruit the international community to act as a restraint on the United States, while insisting that anything involving the future of Kuwait is a purely Arab matter," a senior envoy explained.

Western officials emphasise that to understand President Saddam's thinking on the Kuwait question it is essential to appreciate his long history as a member of the Arab Baath party, which has an almost mystical devotion to the concept of Arab unity and the rejection of outside interference in the Arab world. There is a conviction among Iraqi officials that somehow the Gulf conflict can be discussed separately from what they see as Kuwait's rightful return to Iraqi sovereignty. When questioned on logical grounds, the officials produce a barrage of blood-curdling rhetoric which is also being used successfully to whip up grassroots support in the Arab and Islamic world.

Behind the familiar arguments about America's alleged unwillingness to sacrifice sufficient blood in support of what one official dismissed as the "harem emirs" of Kuwait, and the durability of the Koran-inspired Iraqi soldier, more subtle theories are now being promulgated. "I believe

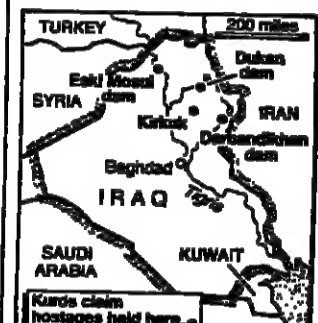
that the US is preparing to face the United Europe of 1992 by trying to secure a firm lever on Middle East oil," said Najib Al-Hadithi, newly appointed director-general of foreign information and editor of the *Baghdad Observer*.

Although President Saddam's propaganda for Arab consumption is designed to stir up pro-Islamic and anti-American feeling among the Arab masses, there is a tendency among lesser officials to tone down the invective in the hope that the much-venerated "Arab solution" (a vague concept) can emerge as a genie might emerge from a bottle.

There is a genuine but dangerously excitable pride in Baghdad that a country of 17 million is standing up to what one official described as "those damned Yankees and their evil empire".

Iraqis choose to ignore the West's enormous air and firepower, preferring to speculate on how well their own troops, bent on heroic martyrdom, will fare in the "burning desert" (a favourite phrase) against pale-skinned, lily-livered Americans.

Christopher Walker has spent this week reporting from Baghdad



Kurds pinpoint hostage sites

THE wall of secrecy surrounding Western hostages in Iraq cracked yesterday when Kurdish rebels said four groups, mainly British and American, were being held at three dams, an airbase and an oilfield in northern Iraq (Reuters reports).

The first report pinpointing the location of hostages at possible war targets said hostages, including women and children, had been moved on August 24 to the Eski Mosul, Dukan and Darbandikhan dams and to a military airbase at Kirkuk.

A Kurdistan Democratic Party spokesman in London said that the intelligence report from Kurdish agents was received last Monday.

He did not know whether the women and children were still at the dams, airbase and oilfield or had been moved back to Baghdad in view of President Saddam Hussein's decision to release them. The total number of hostages involved was also not known.

The hostage groups were moved to these locations: The Eski Mosul dam on the Tigris; the Dukan dam on the Lesser Zab river; the Darbandikhan dam, also on the Lesser Zab, which like the Dukan supplies Baghdad and Kirkuk with power; Kirkuk, where they are located at an airbase and an oil installation.

The first group was housed in the power station buildings. It was not known where the others were being accommodated. All are being held as a deterrent against air attack.

The spokesman said oil production at Iraq's oilfields around Kirkuk and Mosul had virtually ceased, with wells pumping only enough for Iraq's domestic needs.

The Dukan and Darbandikhan dams were frequently attacked by Iranian planes during the 1980-88 Gulf war.

Glowing advice from three yes-men

By MICHAEL EVANS DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

SINCE any senior commander with battle experience and popular appeal among the troops has been viewed as a potential rival, President Saddam Hussein has surrounded himself with military advisers who would not dare to dampen his ambitions, intelligence sources said yesterday.

His habit of removing anyone threatening his power base has had a significant impact on the tone and quality of military and political advice available to him. Although the focus at present is on diplomatic initiatives involving Tariq Aziz, Iraq's foreign

minister, the small team of military advisers will undoubtedly be painting a glowing picture for President Saddam of Iraq's invincibility. The team consists of Lieutenant-General Hamid Shaaban Khader al-Takriti, aged 59, the special adviser for military affairs, Brigadier-General Hussein Kamel Hassan Magid Takriti, aged 50, the minister of industry and military production; and General Abdel-Jaber Khalil Shanshal, aged 70, the defence minister. General Shaaban, a career officer from President Saddam's home town clan, and a former commander of the air force (1978-89), has no command function. Although known as a brave officer, he is reputed to serve the Iraqi leader with slavish loyalty. In the

1970s and 1980s his name was linked to rumours of coup plots, but it is thought that he served as a "stalking horse" to draw out suspected coup leaders.

General Shanshal, a Sunni Muslim from the Mosul area, is also a career officer who joined the army in 1938. He served as chief of staff until 1984, when he was appointed minister for military affairs. He was promoted to general in 1989 and he is considered to have little influence. General Kamel is President Saddam's cousin and son-in-law, and is part of the Takriti clan. He is probably the second most powerful man in Iraq and is viewed as President Saddam's policy adviser. He directs Iraq's weapons development programme.

League struggles to hold the line

From MICHAEL THEODOULOU IN NICOSIA

FACING perhaps its gravest confrontation ever, the Arab world was divided as never before yesterday. A slender majority of Arab League members worked to keep up the pressure on Baghdad to withdraw from Kuwait, while two others pursued a peace plan already rejected by the West, and Colonel Gaddafi, the maverick Libyan leader, promised to unveil his very own initiative today.

Twelve of the Arab League's 21 members, meeting for a second day in Cairo, were expected to renew their demands for an unconditional Iraqi withdrawal, but had no new plan to build on. "Up to now, no Arab solution exists," said Sheikh Sahab al-Sabah, the foreign minister of Kuwait's government-in-exile.

Syria's foreign minister was scathing of separate peace plans by Iraq's allies, Jordan and the Palestine Liberation Organisation. Farouk al-Shara insisted that any Arab peace plan had to come within the framework of the league. Saudi Arabian newspapers said the Jordanian and PLO plans provided a little comic relief, nothing more. Their plan sidesteps the

United Nations Security Council resolutions and calls for Iraq to withdraw from Kuwait and the multinational forces to pull out of the Gulf. Both would be replaced by Arab or UN forces.

The league was surprised when Libya, an ally of Iraq, showed up at the opening session on Thursday, but it appeared its purpose was to try to temper a final resolution with a call for the US-led multinational forces to pull out of the Gulf alongside the Iraqi withdrawal. Colonel Gaddafi has promised to present his own peace plan today. Few analysts were willing to predict its contents.

TUNIS: The International Union of Syndicates of Arab Workers, an inter-Arab union, yesterday called for a boycott of aircraft and ships coming from countries enforcing the UN blockade of Iraq and occupied Kuwait. It urged the UN to lift the boycott and condemned Arab League countries that endorse it.

The union appealed to Arabs not to load or unload ships from nations participating in what it called "the imperialist-Atlanticist invasion of holy places". (AP)

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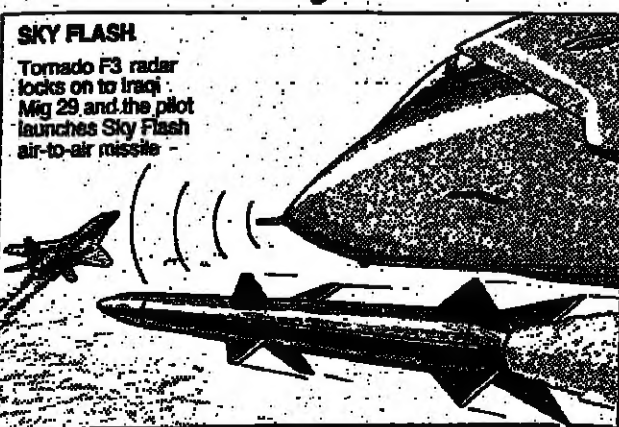
High-Tech Weapons Sky Flash never yet fired in anger

By MICHAEL EVANS DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

BRITAIN'S 12 air-defence Tornado F3s in Dhafran are all armed with Sky Flash medium-range and Sidewinder short-range air-to-air missiles. Sky Flash is the first missile that would be fired by a British Tornado pilot in an aerial battle with Iraqi fighters.

Sky Flash, a British-modified version of the American Sparrow missile, has a range of 25 miles and weighs 430lb. Unlike the Sidewinder, which has a range of five miles, it has never been fired in anger.

The missile is a semi-active, radar-homing device which means that the pilot must use the Tornado's radar to illuminate the target before



launching an attack. Sky Flash chases the reflected illumination from the target but it is up to the pilot to ensure that the missile stays on course by keeping the radar locked on to the approaching aircraft. The missile takes 40 to 60

seconds to cover its full range. Sky Flash will eventually be replaced by a fully active system in which the radar transmission will come from the missile, not the aircraft, making it more accurate.

In any immediate conflict, however, the pilot would have to play a larger role.

"The success of the missile will depend on the engagement geometry, how good the pilot is, what electronic counter-measures are deployed by the enemy aircraft and how good the approaching fighter is at manoeuvring out of the way," Duncan Lennox, editor of *Jane's Air-Launched Weapons*, said yesterday.

"As the opposing aircraft fly towards each other, each will launch a medium-range, semi-active radar missile first and then a short-range missile when they get closer," he added. "In the end it will depend on the steel of the pilot. It's quite complicated to work out the best moment to launch the missiles. The cool head gets it right."

Call to ban Guinness 4 from holding directorships

By ROBIN OAKLEY, POLITICAL EDITOR

THE Labour Party urged the government yesterday to ask the courts to disqualify those convicted in the Guinness trial from holding company directorships. However, Peter Lilley, the trade and industry secretary, will not for the moment take any action.

The trade department has its own investigators preparing a report on the Guinness affair and there are other legal cases pending.

Mr Lilley will not take a decision on applying to the High Court for the disqualification of Ernest Saunders, the former Guinness chairman, Gerald Ronson, the head of Heron International, Anthony Parson, the stockbroker, or Sir Jack Lyons, the financier, until all the cases have been completed and until he has studied the department inspectors' report.

The report will go into wider aspects of the Guinness affair than those touched on in the court case and officials say that ministers do not lightly take the decision to apply for disqualification of directors.

Gordon Brown, the Opposition's chief trade spokesman, said: "Following their convictions for crimes including theft, fraud, deception and false accounting, and for what the judge described as commercial corruption at the highest level, it is not acceptable that they should be permitted to maintain directorships of substantial firms with responsibilities to shareholders, employees and customers."

"The public will not understand why people should be permitted to run their businesses from within the walls of a prison. After they have been tried and convicted, business cannot go on as usual without making a mockery of justice."

Mr Brown said: "Under the Company Directors Disqualification Act 1986, the secretary of state has wide powers to seek a disqualification where he has reason to believe that this is in the public interest. Now is the time to use these powers."

"Now is the time for Peter Lilley to show that he has more mettle than his predecessor, who was not prepared to use these powers in the Harrods and other cases. Now is the time to use those powers and for the government to

send the same message as Mr Justice Henry's ruling: that corruption and fraud cannot be tolerated, however well-connected the perpetrator," Mr Brown said.

Earlier this week Mr Lilley applied to the High Court under the 1986 Company Directors Disqualification Act for Peter Cameron-Webb, Peter Dixon and John Wallrock, three former members of the Lloyd's of London insurance market, to be disqualified from ever again being company directors.

The application followed the publication of reports by his department into Minet Holdings and the Alexander Howden Group after an insurance scandal in which some Howden directors were accused of siphoning off millions of pounds.

The inspectors' reports on the Alexander Howden Group had been with the department since 1985. The final report on Minet Holdings was submitted in January.



Mr Ward outside his home in Annapolis yesterday. He is fighting attempts to extradite him to Britain, where he would face charges in connection with the Guinness affair. Legal wrangles seem likely to delay proceedings

Ward digs in for long extradition fight

From SUSAN ELLICOTT IN WASHINGTON

THOMAS Ward, the Washington lawyer paid \$5.2 million for eight weeks' work during the Guinness battle to take over Distillers, is preparing for a long fight against the British authorities' attempts to extradite him from the US.

The high-flying lifestyle he enjoyed while on the Guinness board may be gone, as is the chocolate brown Rolls-Royce and the flat at one of Washington's ritziest addresses. But he still lives in a roomy house on the bay overlooking Annapolis, a small port about half an hour's drive from Washington, and the only curb on his freedom is an order to report daily to the District of Columbia's pre-trial services agency.

If brought back to Britain, Mr Ward would face three charges. Two, under the UK Theft Act, are centred on his alleged theft and false invoicing of the \$5.2 million from Guinness. The maximum jail term that could be imposed would be ten years.

In support of British efforts

to extradite Mr Ward, the US Attorney's office has submitted 13 volumes of evidence to a US magistrate, including documents that show Mr Ward spent 78 days in London conferring with Guinness's takeover team during 1986.

FBI agents arrested Mr Ward last October, 18 months after an extradition warrant was issued by Bow Street Magistrates' Court, central London, following a High Court ruling, supported by the House of Lords, that the \$5.2 million payment was illegal.

Last week Mr Ward took his case to the Baltimore District Court of Maryland. District Judge Norman Ramsey arrived at the same conclusion as the Lords. He allowed 30 days for Mr Ward to lodge an appeal.

Mr Ward's lawyers, Howard Gutman and David Aufhauser, of the renowned Washington law firm of Williams & Connolly, have challenged the constitutionality of the extradition order, citing a US Supreme Court ruling last

year that limited the power of magistrates. The two sides have also yet to agree on Mr Ward's access to British prosecution papers and what type of evidence they should hand to the US court. Mr Aufhauser said that the legal wranglings could delay extradition proceedings for a couple of years.

Yesterday, Mr Ward was at the offices of Ward Lazarus and Groves, the law firm, in central Washington but he was not receiving telephone calls from the press. "Mr Ward never deals with the press," his secretary said. "Please refer to his lawyers."

Little was known about the firm in a city riddled with lawyers until the British authorities linked Mr Ward to the Guinness affair. The company asked Mr Ward to resign from its board after the trade and industry department launched its enquiry into the shares scam. Mr Ward found himself in an unusual position for an American, since US lawyers generally steer away

from sitting on the boards of large foreign firms in case their practice becomes liable in litigation.

Mr Ward, described by those who know him as a family man with a fondness for fine cars and sailing, reluctantly found himself in the limelight. As the *de facto* legal adviser for the takeover of Distillers, he was probably closer to Saunders than anyone else publicly involved in the affair. The pair had reputations as ambitious, determined and charismatic men.

Mr Ward's friendship with Saunders dates back to the 1970s when Saunders was a senior executive with Nestlé, the food manufacturer and Mr Ward was an adviser to the firm. In the Guinness affair, he is credited with fending off a possible investigation into the Distillers takeover by the Monopolies and Mergers Commission and persuading the members of Distillers board to pay back Guinness's fees if the deal unravelled.

In the English courts he claimed that these actions entitled him to the £5.2 million which is being contested. His lawyers have claimed the money is largely spent, with £2.9 million going to the US federal and Maryland state tax men.

The rest of Washington seems largely to have ignored the legal proceedings around the little-known firm of Ward Lazarus & Groves and the trademark lawyer, who is one of its named partners.

Legal experts who follow the relatively obscure field of patent law know Mr Ward's strengths as negotiating and bargaining skills. According to a former colleague, Saunders "helped (Tom) in the transition" from the low-profile world of his speciality to the faster pace of big international finance.

If the British authorities succeed in securing his extradition, Mr Ward, who has denied any wrongdoing, would defend his position in the third trial arising from the Guinness scandal.

Laird denounces remaining TUC 'stone-age men'

By TIM JONES, EMPLOYMENT CORRESPONDENT

THE leader of one of Britain's biggest unions yesterday denounced the men who ran the TUC's largest regional organisation as "traditionalists from the 'political stone age'". The dispute, on the eve of the TUC congress, denied organisers' hopes of an uncontested pre-general election gathering.

The Amalgamated Engineering Union has said that because of the dispute it will end its affiliation to the TUC's southeast region (SERTUC).

Many delegates heading for Blackpool are hoping to present an image in accord with the moderate Labour party leadership and the clash recalls the struggles between

so-called traditionalists and progressives that have damaged Labour's electoral prospects in the past.

The quarrel stems from the decision by the southeast region not to nominate Bill Taylor, a divisional AEU officer elected by secret postal ballot to its executive.

Gavin Laird, general secretary of the AEU, said: "The small clique which runs SERTUC obviously decided brother Taylor and the AEU were too moderate for their tastes and conspired to keep the AEU off the executive while considering far smaller unions acceptable."

Mr Laird outlined the achievements of his union and added: "Such impressive industrial results matter not to the political stone-age men and women within the forms of this region of the TUC."

His union, he said, had in recent years led the way on a variety of issues which, initially, "were unacceptable to the die-hards of the TUC, one or two of whom still remain".

The AEU had nearly been expelled for accepting government money for postal balloting. "Now, of course, most TUC unions gratefully accept this money, including the second largest recipient, the Manufacturing, Science and Finance union, which was one of the most strident in its calls for our expulsion."

Mr Laird said that although old-style thinking no longer prevailed at national level it had not left the outer fringes of the TUC. He accused the southeast region of putting dogma before achievement.

Ron Edwards, general secretary of the region, could not be contacted yesterday.

Pilot aged 75 dies in helicopter crash

By OUR AIR CORRESPONDENT

A BUSINESSMAN aged 75 was killed yesterday when the helicopter he was piloting crashed into a wheatfield in Essex.

Robert MacDonald-Hall, a Second World War fighter pilot who later fitted out Concorde, was believed to be the oldest helicopter pilot in the country. He died when his Hughes 500C turned over soon after taking off from his home at Rayne, Essex, to fly to Battersea, south London.

Mr MacDonald-Hall was a naval commander with the Fleet Air Arm during the war and had been flying for more than 50 years. He was the founder and president of Aircraft Interior Manufacturers, a Southampton-based company with 1,000 employees across the country, and took an active part in running the firm.

He regularly flew the 14-year-old company helicopter to and from work and on business trips. He was on his way to the firm's annual general meeting when he died.

His younger son, Caspar, aged 39, said: "He was a very exceptional man and a brilliant pilot. He had been flying for most of his life and was more at home in the air than behind the wheel of a car."

Detectives return to Kenya

Two Scotland Yard detectives investigating the murder of Julie Ward in Kenya two years ago are to return to East Africa next week (Quentin Cowdry writes).

Det Superintendent Graham Searle and Det Inspector David Shipperd submitted a report to the Kenyan authorities in April. Since then they have been to Australia where they interviewed Dr Glen Burns, a marine biologist, who was one of the last people to see 28-year-old Miss Ward alive. She went missing after leaving the Sand River camp on the Masai Mara reserve to drive to Nairobi, 200 miles away.

Last year the Kenyan police belatedly launched a murder investigation into Miss Ward's death after a coroner dismissed their claims that she had been killed by wild animals.

Prince checks in

The Prince of Wales, accompanied by the Princess, last night checked in as a National Health Service patient at the Queen's Medical Centre, Nottingham, behind a security screen including police dogs. Surgeons will today operate on his right arm, broken in a polo accident, placing bone fragments from his hip around a fracture to aid healing. The Prince will be in hospital for between seven and 11 days.

Drugs sentence

Ronald Harrison, aged 51, of Hoylake, Merseyside, was jailed for ten years yesterday for smuggling 147 kilos of cannabis from Rotterdam via Hull docks hidden in jars of pickled gherkins. Harrison said he had known nothing about the drugs and had planned to sell the gherkins.

Depot expands

East and Counties Spencer yesterday officially opened a £4-million extension to the TNT Express inland clearance depot at Northampton. The expansion of Britain's third largest port will create 100 jobs and is part of nationwide expansion plans by the company costing £10 million.

Ferry to halt

The Belfast-Liverpool ferry service is to end in October with the loss of 200 jobs, it was announced yesterday. Belfast Ferries took over the Liverpool route from P&O eight years ago.

Scheme rejected

Chris Patten, the environment secretary, has rejected a controversial scheme for a complex of shops and flats on the old bus station in the centre of Ambleside, Cumbria, it was announced yesterday.

Aircraft needed in Gulf withdrawn from air show

By HARVEY ELLIOTT, AIR CORRESPONDENT

THE military build-up in the Gulf has hit the Farnborough Air Show, which opens tomorrow, with the withdrawal of some of the United States's most powerful fighters. It had been hoped that the carrier based F-14 Tomcat, the F-15 Eagle and even the F-117A stealth fighter would be taking part in the display, but all are now on active duty.

The Russians have also withdrawn their new twin turbo-prop, the Ilyushin Il-114, which was expected to have made a big impact in the West, where demand for regional aircraft is growing rapidly.

No large commercial jets from the three main manufacturers - Airbus Industrie, Boeing or McDonnell Douglas - will be on display, both because the makers have bulging order books without having to display their jets and because there are no completely new models to unveil.

Even the McDonnell Douglas MD-11, a new three-engined jet now undergoing extensive flight tests, which is fighting for a big order from British Airways, will not be at the show because to be there would delay delivery to airlines desperate for aircraft to meet the ever-increasing number of air passengers.

The crisis in the Gulf is expected to change dramatically the focus of attention at Farnborough. Until the beginning of August it had been expected that civilian aircraft, particularly smaller regional and "commuter" jets and turbo-props, would create the main interest, especially for the 50,000 or so trade visitors expected over the first four days. Now, however, the military suppliers have come back to the forefront, and diplomats from small countries who have seen what can happen without a firm defence are expected to concentrate on the wide range of anti-aircraft missiles, radars and electronic defence equipment on display.

Despite the withdrawal of some aircraft which had been expected, there will still be flying displays every afternoon by aircraft that will include the Russian MiG-29 and

Sukhoi Su-27 fighters, which made a tremendous impact two years ago with their aerobatic manoeuvres. Tornados, Mirages, Hawks, F16s, F18s and Brazilian/Italian AMX fighters will also be flying alongside miso-fights, a novel helicopter without a tail rotor, a new version of the successful BAe 125 jet and a large number of small to medium-sized business aircraft.

The only large commercial aircraft on show will be a Qantas Boeing 747-400, which last year set a non-stop record from London to Sydney of 20 hours and nine minutes.

Surprise additions to the show are the Sukhoi Su-26 aerobatic competition aircraft and two Russian motor gliders whose existence was unknown before they were delivered in the hold of a giant An-225 transporter which flew in from Kiev earlier this week.

The show coincides with the fiftieth anniversary of the Battle of Britain, and will include fly-pasts by the Royal Navy Historic Flight, the Battle of Britain Memorial Flight and the Red Arrows.

When the show was last held two years ago more than 335,000 people attended and contracts worth in excess of £3 billion were announced. This year both those records are expected to be surpassed.

The demands of the US military have also led to the cancellation of the popular air show at RAF Lakenheath, a base of the USAF F-111 nuclear bomber. The show, which was to have been held on September 29 and 30, and which last year drew 22,000 spectators, was to have included aircraft drawn from American and RAF bases throughout Europe, but a spokesman said last night: "The world situation and operational demands mean that neither the aircraft nor the personnel are available."

BP follows other big firms by raising price

By DANIEL TREISMAN

Rotterdam market had fallen by 12p a gallon in recent days but the increase was needed to make up for previous steady rises in the open market price, the company said.

The RAC has criticised the oil companies over the latest increases and has asked the European Commission to take action. "It is clear that the oil market in the UK is working very inefficiently as far as the consumer is concerned," it said.

The organisation has written to Sir Leon Brittan, the EC commissioner, asking him to investigate the Rotterdam oil market. BP rejected claims that the oil companies were profiteering from the emergency in the Gulf.

"Far from profiteering, we are actually losing on our retail side. At the worst point last week we were losing about 20p on each gallon sold," the company said.

BP yesterday joined other oil companies by raising its petrol prices from midnight. The increase adds 6.4p to a gallon of four-star, taking the pump price to 22.41p.

The move comes after increases by Shell, Texaco and Esso which provoked strong criticism from politicians and motoring organisations. Frank Dobson, the shadow energy secretary, accused the companies of "shameless exploitation of the Gulf crisis".

The increase puts BP squarely in the middle of the pack between Shell, which restricted its price rise to 4.5p a gallon, and Esso and Texaco, which boosted the price by 8.2p.

BP said: "We have been trying to limit the damage as much as possible. All week we have been waiting to see how the market settled and today we were able to limit the rise to 6.4p." Spot prices on the

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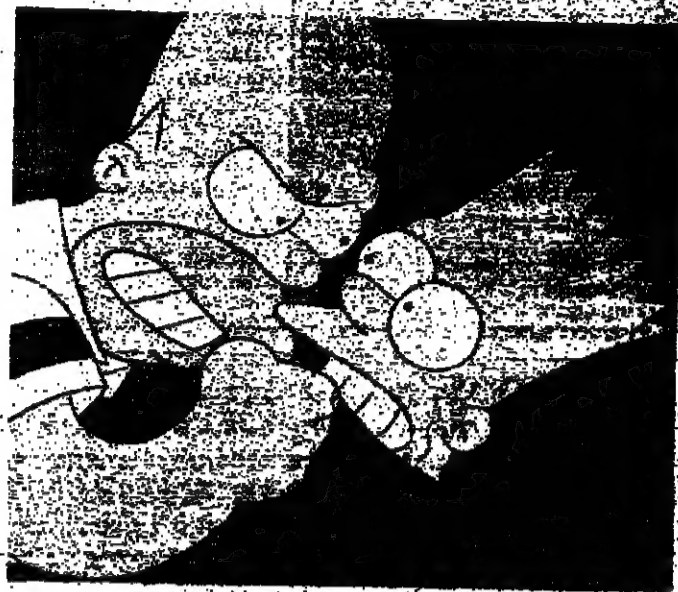


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Global warming 'could introduce more diseases'

By MICHAEL HORNSBY, AGRICULTURE CORRESPONDENT

HUMANS and animals could be exposed to more diseases because of climate changes brought about by global warming, veterinary surgeons were told yesterday. Some would be new to Britain.

Microbial, parasitic, tick-borne and fungus-related diseases could increase in frequency and virulence in warmer and more humid conditions. Ian Aitken, director of the Moredun Research Institute in Edinburgh, told the annual congress of the British Veterinary Association.

The growth of novel fungi could increase the incidence of farmer's lung, an asthma-like condition, he predicted. Horses and cows could also suffer from the ailment. Diseases that might spread to Britain from continental Europe included blue-tongue, a disease that afflicts sheep, and African horse sickness. Midges capable of carrying the causative viruses "are already present here and a rise in temperature could facilitate the establishment and persistence of those agents were they to enter this country".

There were about 20 zoonotic infections (those which

can be transmitted from animals to man) that occurred in Britain. "Any change in their prevalence, severity or distribution is likely to lead to comparable changes in human infection", he said.

A rising rat population could increase the risks of waterborne infection by salmonella and listeria, and improved grass growth could push up the number of cattle being grazed. That in turn could increase the danger of contamination of water supplies by cryptosporidium, a parasitic organism excreted in the dung of cattle.

One of the more unexpected results of global warming could be increased dental decay if sheep eat lush grass. Teeth problems could lead to premature culling of breeding ewes. Increased production of silage (fermented grass) for winter feed could cause a greater incidence of listeria in sheep.

Delegates also heard a call for more research into ways to make cattle pass less wind. The average cow, they were told, releases up to 400 litres a day of methane, one of the

"greenhouse effect" that is thought to cause global warming. Britain alone had more than 12 million cattle releasing nearly five billion litres of methane a day into the atmosphere. Professor James Armour, dean of the veterinary medicine faculty at Glasgow University, told the congress. "If biotechnology can be used to create leaner beef and cows with more milk, why not cows which produce less methane?" he said.

Country landowners, yesterday called for a change in water conservation laws which allow sprinklers to water golf courses while farmers are banned from irrigating crops.

Although the National Rivers Authority has powers to stop farmers pumping water from rivers, the water companies are powerless to stop commercial sprinklers without declaring a full-scale drought emergency.

The environment department said that it had no plans to modify the law. The newly privatised water companies must be given time to get to grips with their responsibilities, a spokeswoman said.

Waterloo medal 175 years late

By ROBIN YOUNG

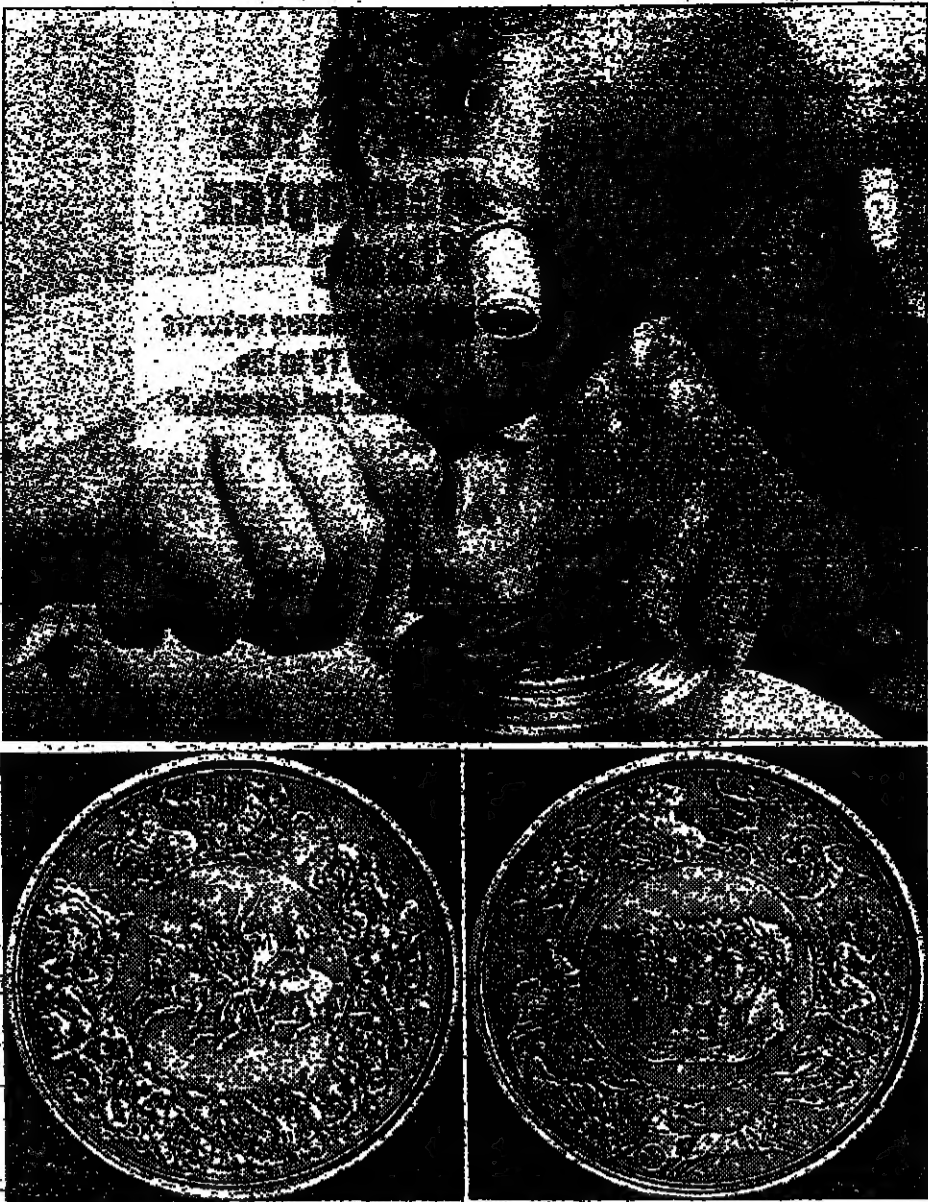
THE Royal Mint is striking a medal to celebrate the Battle of Waterloo, 175 years late. The medals are to be offered in a limited edition in gold, silver and bronze through the mint's coin club.

The Italian engraver Benedetto Pistrucci was commissioned in 1816 but a dispute with the mint delayed the work. Thirty years after Pistrucci began the engraving the dies were delivered. By that time, however, most of the intended recipients were dead.

Pistrucci's designs were acclaimed but the mint decided that the dies, at over five inches in diameter, were too large and intricate to be safely hardened for striking, so they were never used.

The medal on offer has been reproduced indirectly from the original dies by craftsmen working with impressions of Pistrucci's masterpieces. On one side it shows the Prince Regent (later George IV), Francis I of Austria, Alexander I of Russia and Frederick-William III of Prussia in profile. On the reverse are Wellington and Blücher in classical manner.

The mint is offering 175 gold medals at £995, 2,500 silver at £75 and 5,000 bronze at £37.50. The medal 63mm in diameter, is said to be large enough for the finest details to be reproduced clearly.



Marcel Chénier, an engraver at the Royal Mint, working on the medal to celebrate the Battle of Waterloo (top), and the two faces of Pistrucci's medal, actual size.

Police officers wait for decision

SOUTH Yorkshire police officers, suspended with disciplinary charges after the Sheffield disaster, are waiting for a decision on their future. The assistant chief constable for South Yorkshire, responsible for the investigation, said yesterday the report on the disaster at the Sheffield Wednesday ground on April 15 last year had not yet reached the disciplinary authority.

The report contains 9,560 questionnaires, 5,341 statements, 2,392 sets of documents, 71 hours of video recordings and the transcripts of 174 people who gave evidence at Lord Justice Taylor's enquiry.

The report, which persuaded the Director of Public Prosecutions that no criminal charges should be brought against the police force, individual police officers, or against the football club and its advisers, will be "closely scrutinised" by the disciplinary authority.

Mr Anderson said a decision would then be made about whether to take action against any officers. Any recommendation would then be submitted to the Police Complaints Authority.

'Tired' children better in school

By NIGEL HAWKES, SCIENCE EDITOR

YOUNG children whose symptoms of fatigue and loss of appetite lead parents to suspect they are suffering from myalgic encephalomyelitis (ME) are probably just adopting a strategy to miss school, a paediatrician said yesterday.

Dr Leonard Taitz, of the Children's Hospital in Sheffield, said: "In 30 years of clinical practice I have never seen such symptoms lead to organic disease in children under 12."

He told a meeting of the Royal Society the story of an 11-year-old girl brought to him by her mother in a wheelchair, apparently virtually paraplegic. Her mother was convinced the child was suffering from ME. "I managed to persuade the child to stand up, and eventually to go back to school," Dr Taitz said. "The last I heard she was playing for the school hockey team."

Dr Taitz was not denying the existence of ME, though he

prefers the term chronic fatigue syndrome. Some children, he said, do suffer from exhaustion after a virus disease. "But the important point in children is that the condition is self-limiting, non-fatal and of trivial importance," he said.

His strategy was to explain the trivial nature of the symptoms, avoid doing any tests if possible, and ask the child to be brave and get back to school. It was important also to ensure that genuine problems at school, like bullying, were dealt with. "Never offer home tuition," Dr Taitz said. "If you do that, they never get back to school."

Such children had often been convinced by their parents that they were suffering from ME. The mother of the 11-year-old required considerable persuasion before she would allow the child to leave the wheelchair.

The causes of chronic fatigue syndrome remain obscure. Other speakers at the meeting, organised by the Royal Society and the Association of British Science Writers, reported that attempts to link the condition with a range of viruses had been inconclusive.

Professor Anthony Mann, of the Institute of Psychiatry, said that fatigue was quite common among the public — in surveys one-fifth of men and one-third of women say that they "always feel tired" — which suggested that chronic fatigue syndrome was the extreme end of a continuum that included most people.

If that were true, then the syndrome was rather like high blood pressure, found in many people but life-threatening in only a few.

Richard Edwards, professor of medicine at the Royal Hospital in Liverpool, said that inactivity, recommended by the ME Association to sufferers of the syndrome, was a mistake because it allowed the muscles to weaken, making the condition worse.

Peter White, a senior lecturer in the department of psychiatric medicine at St Bartholomew's Hospital, London, said that chronic fatigue syndrome was often linked to depression. That could often be treated successfully with drugs, which might also reduce the fatigue symptoms.

Stricter control of homes

By JILL SHERMAN, SOCIAL SERVICES CORRESPONDENT

SMALL residential homes which have been allowed to operate unchecked, are to be more strictly controlled.

Virginia Bortomey, the health minister, publishing a consultation paper yesterday, said the government was determined to plug a legal loophole allowing anyone to run homes of less than four places.

At present, such homes do not have to be registered with local authorities and are not subject to inspection. The proposed legislation would require all homes to be registered. Local councils would have to satisfy themselves that the owner, applying for registration, was a "fit person" and councils would be given powers to visit homes.

Smaller homes have proliferated in the past five years and there are now about 2,000. Social services have been pressing for these homes to be registered so that there is control over standards.

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GCSE fails to close gender gap, results show

By JOHN O'LEARY, HIGHER EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

THE introduction of the GCSE has failed to close the gender gap in public examinations. Girls still do better than boys when extended writing is required, while boys thrive on questions involving calculation, according to research published yesterday.

Helen Patrick, research officer for the Cambridge university local examinations syndicate, found notable differences between the sexes in two years' GCSE results in 14 subjects. Her research was the subject of a paper at the British Education Research Association's annual conference in London.

In all examining groups, girls outscored boys in English

language and literature, geography, German and history. Boys consistently did better in mathematics and chemistry. Results in other subjects varied between examining groups, but girls tended to do better in French, physics and craft, design and technology, with the roles reversed in computer studies, biology and business studies.

The differences follow a similar pattern to those found in research on O-levels and other public examinations. In the two English examinations the gap was more than 10 per cent in the proportion of passes at grade C and above. There were also large differences in mathematics and art and design.

"This continuity is one of the features which concerns me about gender differences in public examination results," Ms Patrick said in her paper. "GCSE seems to be perpetuating features of previous examinations which it may not be desirable to perpetuate."

There had been hopes that because the GCSE is a common examination for the great majority of the age group, it would eradicate differences due to subject choice and entry patterns at O-level. The research showed that had not happened. "Another possibility is that results are affected by examiner expectations." The main conclusion of the research, however, was that the nature and content of the examinations encouraged the differences, she said.

Primary school teachers resent the amount of time devoted to assessment under the National Curriculum and believe much of it to be unnecessarily formalised, the conference was told. Researchers from Bristol University and Bristol Polytechnic interviewed 150 teachers to see how their schools were responding to the new curriculum.

Although they found fears about the impact of assessment on teaching and learning, the researchers were optimistic that teachers would use it creatively as they became more confident about their ability to balance external requirements with their professional judgement.

Stress link to unruly classrooms

TEACHERS and pupils suffering from stress are proving to be a disruptive combination, according to research to be published later this month (John O'Leary writes).

A study of life at an inner London primary school by Elizabeth Hawkins, who teaches elsewhere in the capital, will show that teachers under stress from pressures at home and at school cannot control classes as well as their colleagues. Full details of the research will be given to a conference at Newman College, Birmingham, on September 13.

Martin Cole, director of the college's centre for research in teaching and organiser of the conference, said yesterday: "The research provides an undoubted link between stress and the ability to control pupils who are likely to be under stress themselves. Obviously, if there is constant disturbance the quality of learning for the whole class is likely to suffer."

"There has been a lot of anxiety about the number of teachers leaving the profession, but not enough has been heard about the number who are staying despite being unhappy and highly stressed."

Eleven arrested after claims over council site deals

By DOUGLAS BROOM, LOCAL GOVERNMENT CORRESPONDENT

THE former deputy leader of Labour-controlled St Helens council on Merseyside was among 11 people arrested yesterday by police investigating allegations of corruption in sales of council-owned land.

The councillor, Brian Green, a left-winger, had the party whip withdrawn last month by Labour's national executive committee after a dispute over council grants to a trade union unemployment centre. He was held by detec-

tives in a dawn raid on his home in St Helens, police said.

A team of 45 officers, led by Det. Chief Superintendent Mike Culverhouse, of Merseyside fraud squad, executed search warrants at 19 addresses in Merseyside, Lancashire, Greater Manchester and Cheshire early yesterday.

A police spokesman said that the operation followed "allegations of corruption within the St Helens council regarding disposal of property and land sites to property developers."

Those arrested, including council officials, a lawyer and several property developers, were questioned about nine land deals worth several millions of pounds. Later, all eleven were released on police bail. A police spokesman said that a report would be sent to the Attorney-general, Sir Patrick Mayhew.

Police were called in by the council last month after a member of the public alleged irregularities relating to land deals, including the sale of St Helens Mansion House and a former museum.

A separate police investigation was also launched into a series of attacks on the council leader, Marie Rimmer, and other leading moderates on the council. Ms Rimmer was physically assaulted and had excrement smeared on her car, another councillor's house was stoned and a third had his car tyres vandalised.

The attacks began after the council voted to cut off funds to a trade union unemployment centre in St Helens that had received £730,000 from the council since 1986.

Mr Green and five other councillors were disciplined by Labour's national executive committee for trying to block the decision to cut off funds to the centre amid allegations that they supported Militant Tendency.

Last year, two of the centre's 20 staff were found guilty of false accounting and the council then sent in its auditors.

Police said that there was no connection between yesterday's arrests and investigations of land deals involving Liverpool City Council.



THE Bishop of Stepney, the Right Rev James Thompson, addressing a memorial service in Hackney, east London, yesterday at the place where PC Laurence Brown was shot dead on duty earlier this week. The bishop led the hundreds of mourners in prayers and hymns and urged local people to see the murder as a new beginning (Tom Giles writes). PC Brown's widow, Janet, stood quietly at the back of the crowd holding their four-month-old daughter, Emma. She later carefully examined the floral tributes placed at the scene. Local people, who organised the service, have raised £1,400 for the murdered constable's daughter. PC Brown's funeral with full police honours will take place next week at his local church of St Chad's, Chadwell Heath, east London.

Minister postpones poll tax litigation

By DOUGLAS BROOM, LOCAL GOVERNMENT CORRESPONDENT

THE government yesterday postponed legal action against Lambeth council over its refusal to set a poll tax in line with ministerial guidelines.

Chris Patten, the environment secretary, who announced on Thursday that he intended to take the charge-capped, Labour-run council to the High Court, relented in order to allow it to seek legal advice. Lambeth had sought more time on the grounds that its QC was abroad. Mr Patten agreed to extend until next Friday the deadline for setting a new community charge in line with his figures.

The atmosphere of apparent goodwill was swiftly soured when Lambeth said that it would seek compensation of £20,000 a week from the government for the cost of postponing the issue of its revised poll tax bills.

Capping orders issued last month required Lambeth to cut its £285.1 million budget by £8.8 million. Mr Patten said that this should result in a poll tax of £493, instead of the £548 the council had set. The council responded by setting a £521.63 charge, arguing that reduced collection rates meant that it could not afford a cut in line with Mr Patten's figures.

THE SUNDAY TIMES

Lord Young on a dramatic election

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Lord Young to Norman Tebbit seven days before the 1987 general election. In tomorrow's Sunday Times read the first inside account — by Lord Young — of the rows behind the scenes as the Tory party turned potential defeat to overwhelming victory.

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An exclusive, updated guide to all the degree and HND vacancies at 72 colleges and polytechnics is published tomorrow in The Sunday Times.

FROST'S PREMIER INTERVIEW



DAVID FROST INTERVIEWS MARGARET THATCHER SUNDAY MORNING AT 8

This Sunday David Frost returns with a new series of 'Frost on Sunday'. Setting the pace of the series, in his first interview he talks to the Premier, Margaret Thatcher. Each week he'll be interviewing major national and international figures who are making the news.

FROST ON SUNDAY TV-am

TV union says 2,000 jobs to go

By MELINDA WITTSTOCK, MEDIA CORRESPONDENT

BETWEEN 2,000 and 3,000 jobs will be lost in BBC network television as a result of the government's 25 per cent quota for independently made programmes, the Broadcasting and Entertainment Trades Alliance has forecast.

The BBC is to transfer 1,339 hours of programming, at a value of £100 million, to independent producers by 1993. The corporation said that would result in the closure of a quarter of its studio capacity. The BBC has refused to quantify job losses among its 8,000 network staff but Beta said the 25 per cent quota means one in four programme-related jobs would be lost.

An independent report from the accountants Ernst & Young however has found that because much of the BBC's costs are fixed, the effect of commissioning 25 per cent of its output from the independent sector would result in a short-term rise in overall BBC costs.

Talks between ITN management and unions, under the conciliation body Acas, were continuing last night. Acas was called in after ITN staff decided to ballot for strike action over ITN's improved 6 per cent pay offer and compulsory overnight working. Staff want a rise in line with inflation.

Companies reluctant to adopt a formal policy on smoking

By JILL SHERMAN
SOCIAL SERVICES CORRESPONDENT

NEARLY three-quarters of British companies questioned in a survey had no formal smoking policy in spite of growing evidence that passive smoking is a health hazard, according to the Institute of Personnel Management.

Preliminary results of a study by Professor James McEwan of Glasgow University, commissioned by the institute, showed 72 per cent of the 852 firms surveyed had failed to introduce any formal policies to restrict smoking. The survey, which had a 28 per cent response, showed that even among companies with more than 1,000 employees, 60 per cent had no written policy.

In smaller companies (up to 100 employees) only 10 per cent had written policies. However a quarter of firms

without written policies said they had introduced some informal restrictions.

In 1988 the government's independent scientific committee on smoking, chaired by Sir Peter Froggatt, concluded that passive smoking increased a non-smoker's risk of lung cancer by between 10 and 30 per cent and caused several hundred deaths a year. Many top companies subsequently started to draw up policies fearing they would be vulnerable to an action brought under health and safety at work legislation.

After this week's test case in which the Social Security Commissioner ruled that a civil servant suffering from severe chest and lung pains had suffered an industrial accident through passive smoking, employers are being advised to tighten their policies.

Fred Dickenson, a member of IPM's national committee of pay and employ-

ment conditions, said: "I thought that the Froggatt report was a warning to all employers that they had better provide a smoke-free atmosphere. The survey results are very disappointing and there is a lot of work to be done in this area."

"My advice to companies would be to start taking this very seriously. A person may bring a case against the company if he feels a relative has died of lung cancer after working in a smoke-free atmosphere."

Mr Dickenson is personnel staff director of IBM UK, which has introduced one of the most comprehensive policies in Britain. All 18,000 employees at IBM are banned from smoking at work except in designated areas. Smoking is prohibited in the restaurant, lifts, corridors and lavatories and in all open-plan and private offices. Smoking rooms are provided within reasonable access for those who wish to smoke. The policy

evolved over ten years, starting with a smoking ban in meetings which was extended to offices three years ago. Although smoking is now a disciplinary offence, except in designated areas, no one has been disciplined and the policy has been well accepted.

Other large companies have adopted less rigorous policies, restricting smoking to some areas or to specific times such as meal breaks. British Petroleum has banned smoking in open-plan areas and offices with more than one person. Executives with their own rooms are allowed to smoke and part of the coffee lounge is designated for smokers. A company spokeswoman said: "In the first few months certain people who smoked, who had their own office, had an influx of visitors."

She said the policy, implemented in January last year, was put forward by

staff committees rather than the management, reflecting the views of a mainly non-smoking workforce.

Ford, Britain's largest car company, is phasing in a smoking policy for its 12,000 office workers. Smoking is forbidden in office canteens, lavatories and lifts but allowed in work areas, corridors and part of the coffee lounge.

A Ford spokesman said the policy would be extended to offices next January but insisted that designated smoking areas would be provided and the policy would not cover the 30,000 employees in factories. "There is good ventilation in the plants so you don't get the side effect of passive smoking to the same degree as in an office," he said.

London Underground has been criticised for imposing a smoking ban on passengers but allowing staff to smoke in mess rooms. However, last January

London Underground banned all smoking in stations, both below and above the ground. Staff can only smoke out in the street at meal times. The ban follows fire regulations introduced last year.

Mark Flanagan, director of the Workplace Services division of the anti-smoking organisation Ash, which provides a fee-paying service for employers wanting to introduce a smoking policy, says it is vital that employees are consulted at every stage and that the policy is not implemented overnight.

"Any effective policy should allow all workers the right to smoke-free air but it should also provide a designated smoking area," he says. Allowing people in private offices to smoke was divisive and would be resented. Smoking restrictions must be part of the corporate management policy rather than being set up informally after a staff vote, he said.

Catholics join move to church unification

By RUTH GLEDHILL, RELIGIOUS AFFAIRS REPORTER

A NEW era in Christian and church unity begins today with the founding of three ecumenical bodies in England, Wales and Scotland that will formally include, for the first time, the Roman Catholic Church.

Anglican, black-led, Free churches, Orthodox and many smaller churches have also joined the bodies, whose ultimate goal is church unity. The churches known as black-led are of mainly West Indian or African membership but are not racially based.

Cardinal Basil Hume, Archbishop of Westminster, will take part with Dr Robert Runcie, Archbishop of Canterbury, in the inauguration of "Churches Together in England" today at St George's Roman Catholic cathedral, Southwark.

The service is regarded as a visible sign of Catholic commitment to the work of the new bodies. They will take over the work of, but bear little other resemblance to, the now defunct British Council of Churches. The Catholic Church had refused to join the council but sent observers to meetings.

The bodies called "Churches Together in Wales" and "Action of Churches Together in Scotland" will also be launched today at services in Aberystwyth, Dyfed, and Dunblane, Central region. An umbrella body, the Council of Churches for Britain and Ireland will be launched from the two Liverpool cathedrals next Saturday.

The groups represent a move from co-operation between churches to a firm commitment to working together in unity. It is intended that they should foster much closer liaison and joint effort on issues faced by all the churches in Britain.

The Rev John Reardon, former deputy general secretary of the United Reformed

Church and general secretary of the Council of Churches for Britain and Ireland, said: "This is an opportunity for the churches to demonstrate their commitment to one another. The new bodies will enable us to work more effectively together."

Dr John Habgood, Archbishop of York, who will address the inaugural service of Churches Together in England, said: "They [the bodies] are necessary for this next stage of our coming together ecumenically, they are not ends in themselves. I see them as a stage along the way to unity."

Previously, he said, ecumenism had been a bit unreal because the Catholic Church was not involved in its decision, and that of some of the Pentecostal churches, to take part fully in the new bodies was a major step. Dr Habgood said the Catholic Church would bring particular gifts to ecumenism: seriousness, the sense of tradition and the requirement to go back to first principles.

According to the influential Catholic journal *The Tablet*, the most difficult task for the new bodies will be to catch the imagination of people. *The Tablet* says that the launch of Churches Together in England in St George's symbolises the Roman Catholic Church's senior partnership in the new structure.

The new bodies, according to the journal, are less ambitious than the British Council of Churches, which was free to construct its own policy but as a result seemed to become detached from a secure membership base. *The Tablet* calls on the Roman Catholic Church "to show what it thinks commitment really means, particularly as the other churches will tend (at least unconsciously) to measure their degree of involvement by that standard."



Flying start: a Medway Sprint microflight piloted by Steve Caver with Jim Hill as navigator practising over Wiltshire yesterday for the M25 microflight Battle of Britain rally today. The £7,000 Medway Sprint and about 40 other microflights will fly a circuit of the motorway, passing over several Battle of Britain airfields, to raise money for the RAF Benevolent Fund's £20 million Reach for the Sky appeal

East-West church rivalry threatens Christian unity

By OUR RELIGIOUS AFFAIRS REPORTER

AN ORGANISATION to maintain contact between churches in the East and West was called for at an international conference at Ampleforth Abbey, York, yesterday.

The four-day conference heard that the collapse of communism throughout Eastern Europe had led to the re-emergence of religious tensions and rivalries. More than 200 delegates attended "A Time For Change", which ended yesterday. Father Leo Chamberlain, chairman of the organising committee and head of the history department at Ampleforth College, said the conference was a triumph of persistence over Soviet and Eastern European bureaucracy. One delegate received his exit visa only hours before he was due to leave the Soviet Union. The conference

had highlighted the need for better channels of communication. National conflicts, old enmities and church rivalries could re-emerge in the new Europe, he said.

Canon Michael Bourdeaux, founder and director of Keston College, said in his concluding talk that the reappearance of old tensions had made ecumenical relations between churches more difficult in Eastern and central Europe.

"Taking the lid off Eastern Europe has led to the expression with much greater force of various types of nationalism. The way in which Christianity is often bound up with nationalism, sometimes in its more extreme form, is something of which we have to be wary but it is unquestionably something which has come more to the fore in recent weeks." He

cited the western Ukraine and Yugoslavia as places where tensions were leading away from Christian unity rather than towards it.

The Rev Bogdan Tranda, of the Polish Reform Church, said that old fears of the Protestant minority in Poland had been revived. "There are large circles of people who fear much more Catholicism than Marxist ideology."

John Bishop, a member of the organising committee, said the conference should serve as a starting point for a continuing process. An organisation to keep the initiative alive could contribute to the strength and cohesion of Christianity throughout Europe and he suggested another conference in Eastern Europe in 1992. The organisers are appealing for sponsorship for such a conference.

Report doubts value of 'energy labelling'

By NIGEL HAWKES, SCIENCE EDITOR

GOVERNMENT plans to reduce the amount of energy consumed by domestic appliances by attaching "energy labels" to them are not likely to be very effective, according to a report to be published on Monday by the Department of Energy.

Laying down minimum standards of energy efficiency or tax incentives would be needed to reduce the power consumption of appliances, such as refrigerators, freezers and washing machines, the March Consulting Group, which produced the report for the Energy Efficiency Office suggests.

The scope for savings and for reducing emissions of greenhouse gases was very large. Consumers could save 40 per cent of their domestic electricity costs, equivalent to £1.5 billion a year, by using the more efficient appliances. Reduced

demand for electricity would cut by nearly 10 per cent the carbon dioxide released from British power stations, diminishing the risk of global warming, the report says.

Some of the greatest potential savings were in lighting and refrigeration, where savings of up to 70 per cent were possible. However, the benefits would take a long time to filter through if the government relied on encouraging people to buy the most efficient appliances. David Clark, of the March Consulting Group, said yesterday that the amount of energy used by an appliance was not a priority of most British purchasers at the moment, but the gap between the most efficient and the least efficient appliances was huge, and it was not related to price.

Simon Roberts, energy campaigner for Friends of the Earth, said that the report "confirms the complete inadequacy of the government's present plans to improve energy efficiency and cut environmental damage". It wants the government to follow the United States and set minimum efficiency standards, to be met by a fixed date, to compel manufacturers to improve standards.

Curnows explore Cornish roots

By ARTHUR LEATHLEY

CORNWALL will echo the sound of its old Celtic title this weekend when it plays host to one of the largest family parties in its history.

The name of Kernow will resound again across Mount Bay, near Penzance, where nearly 300 namesakes from all over the world will converge. Kernow was Cornwall's name at least as long ago as the 6th century, but has now spread worldwide, most commonly as Curnow, through the wanderings of the county's miners and gold-diggers.

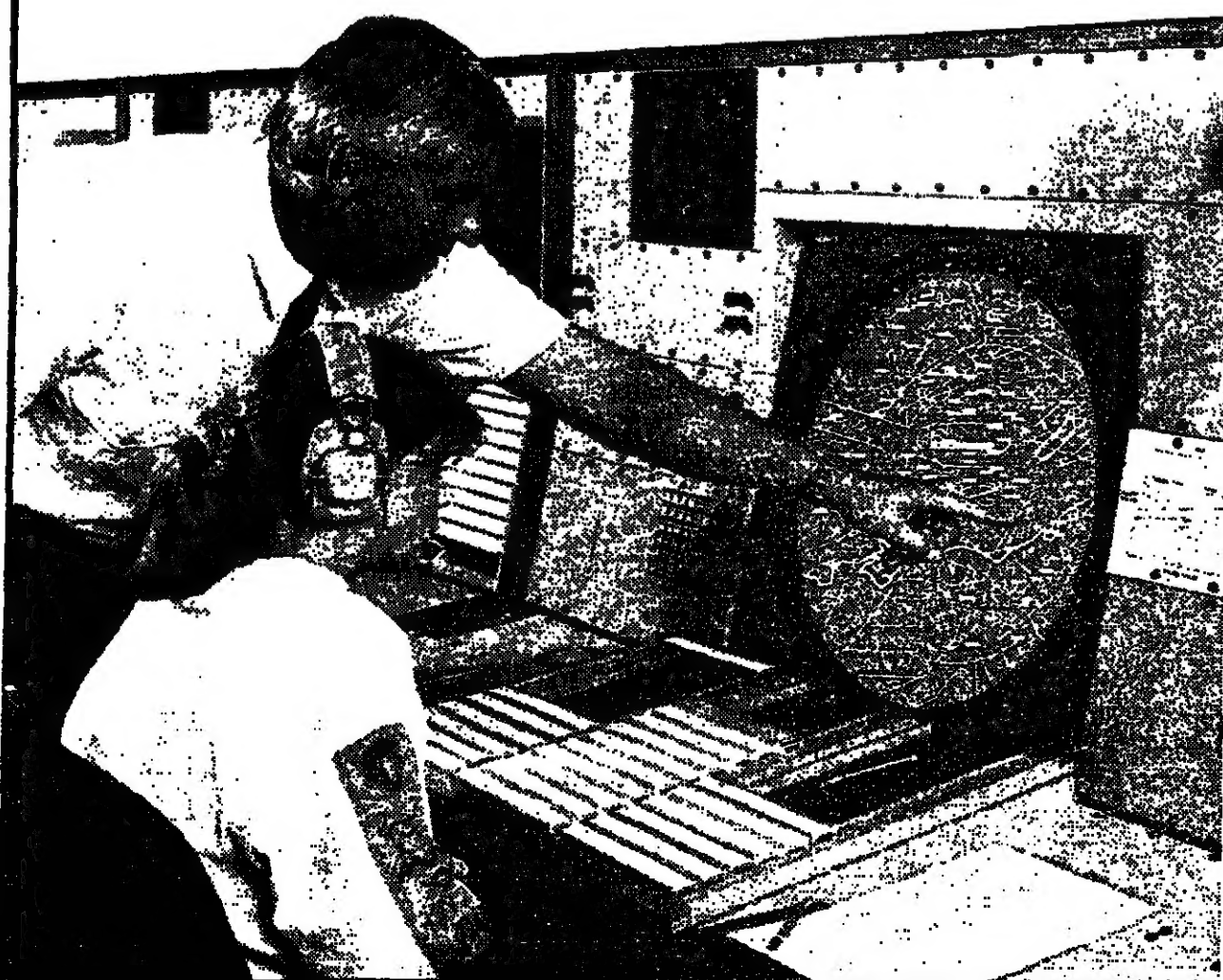
This weekend's gathering of Curnows in Marazion is the culmination of more than two years' research by Howard Curnow, a teacher from the town, who invited 1,500 family members to the party. He admits to being "very surprised" that so many have accepted his invitation to travel thousands of miles to the get-together. Two million miles is his conservative estimate of the total distance travelled by kinsfolk from Australia, Canada, America and New Zealand, not to mention those coming from Aberdeen and from Britain.

Mr Curnow has traced his own family line back 12 generations to 1570, with the birth of Thomas Curnow, who had 10 children and died in 1634. Another Thomas Curnow is thought to have helped in the capture of the Ned Kelly robbers in the Australian outback.

The complexities of contacting so many people have been matched by the difficulties in booking scores of hotel rooms and hire cars in the name of various Curnows. Mr Curnow has been inundated with letters and telephone calls from new-found relatives. "I have had people sobbing either because they couldn't come or because they were so pleased to know of their connections," he said.

The most will be made of family connections. The farm being used for tonight's party was bought in 1857 by Mr Curnow's great-grandfather, Stephen, who returned to Cornwall after seeing the farm in a newspaper advertisement while on a gold-digging expedition in Victoria, Australia. The Rev Ted Curnow, of Melbourne, Australia, will help to take a service tomorrow at the parish church at St Hilary. Mr Curnow's family tree has been drawn up in America and copies will be sold to the weekend visitors.

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Floral glory of revived village

By ROBIN YOUNG

A RECENTLY dilapidated Welsh village with a population of 31 is in contention this year as one of the tidiest and most flourishing places in Britain. At Gwytherin, Clwyd, there are hanging baskets on the public lavatories and fresh-cut flowers in the telephone box, and the village has been chosen to represent Wales in the national finals of the Britain in Bloom contest.

A few years ago, Gwytherin was largely derelict. Its public house and the church had been long closed. Yet in 1988, it won Clwyd's best-kept village competition, and this year, Gwytherin, now with thriving church and pub, was chosen as the most successfully beautified small village in Wales.

The three judges in the small villages section of Britain in Bloom had an eventful visit to the competition's finalist last week, coinciding with the Gwytherin agricultural show, which is attended by farmers and smallholders, and their livestock, from miles around.

The judges were shown round by Gillian Derbyshire, who raises many of the village's flowers from seed. She also gardens for the elderly and for a recalcitrant few who "can't be bothered". Generally, though, the place is a showpiece of horticultural enthusiasm. The flowers in

the telephone box are renewed daily by Miss Derbyshire, or by her allies, Winifred Lindley and Joan Boucher.

The judges toured the village centrepiece, a paved area on the site of the former smithy, with the old mill in the middle and steps leading down to a little lawn, and visited the Lion public house, festooned with hanging baskets, whose licensees until last week, David Cortess and John Watts, are credited with much of Gwytherin's revival.

The judges, Jenny Crossland, a tourism promoter, and Harry Parker and Hugh Smith, retired park directors from Swansea and Belfast, respectively, look for imaginative use of trees, shrubs, flowers and landscaping in improving the environment. The competition is run by the Tidy Britain Group, and there are 44 national finalists, chosen from regional winners in eight categories, sprucing themselves up for inspection before September 8.

It will be November before Gwytherin learns whether it has won a national prize. Its rivals in the small villages class, for places with populations under 2,000, are Clifton upon Teme, near Worcester; Flitry, outside Glasgow; Bray, in Berkshire, to be judged today; and Catcott, Somerset, to be inspected on Monday.

October union of Germanies sealed by treaty signing

By ANNE McELVOY IN EAST BERLIN AND OUR FOREIGN STAFF

THE two Germanies yesterday signed a treaty sealing their unification on October 3, described by Helmut Kohl, the West German Chancellor, as "a great hour in German history", and by Lothar de Maizière, the East German prime minister, as "one of the most important documents in German post-war history."

Herr Kohl, who did not attend the ceremony, spoke of the signing as giving hope to the people and politicians of East Germany.

Wolfgang Schäuble, the West German interior minister, and Günther Krause, the East German state secretary, met in East Berlin to sign the 1,000-page document bringing into line the legal and political systems of the two countries.

Herr de Maizière, who attended the ceremony held at the 18th-century palace of the crown princes on East Berlin's historic Unter-den-Linden thoroughfare, said: "The outlook for the future has never been more favourable since the end of the war."

The treaty is intended to remove the last discrepancies between the two Germanies and encourage foreign investment in the East by dismantling bureaucratic hurdles. It also protects the rights of East German tenants living in property to which West German citizens lay claim.

In a last-minute compromise on the abortion question, which had threatened to delay the signing, Herr Schäuble and Herr Krause, who headed the negotiating teams, agreed to separate laws on abortion for a two-year transition. West German women will be able to take advantage of the more liberal rules of the East without risking prosecution.

The two sides also agreed that six million former Stasi files would be kept in East Germany after the Volkskammer (people's chamber) objected on Thursday to the treaty's proposals to move them to the Federal Archive Office in West Germany. The East German parliament has said that it is not prepared to risk the documents falling into the hands of the West German security service.

Herr de Maizière admitted that many East Germans were disappointed with the pace of economic recovery but said that the reforms were proving successful. "The economic and social problem which we now have to fight against are not the result of 143 days of market economy but of

some 15,000 days of socialist centralised planning."

Herr Schäuble said at the East Berlin ceremony: "The treaty... looks like a piece of German perfection, but it isn't. We have dealt only with core issues and much remains to be worked out." The treaty will go to both parliaments for final approval.

Discontent came from West Germany's Jewish community, whose leader, Heinz Galinski, said he was "pained and disappointed" that no specific mention of Nazi atrocities against Jews was included in the document's preamble.

The treaty is the second important document governing German unity. The first, signed in May, enabled the two states to merge their economies on free market lines with a single currency, the Deutschmark, on July 1.

With pan-German elections set for December 2, the only outstanding issue is the security status of the future country. Talks between the two Germanies and the second world war allies, the United States, the Soviet Union, Britain and France, are expected to end without further difficulty in Moscow on September 12.

● **Bonn:** The West German government yesterday passed a law partially granting amnesty to East German spies, Hans Engelhard, the justice minister, announced. He said the legislation did not grant general amnesty to the East German Stasi, the former secret police involved in espionage.

Action taken by the Stasi, such as blackmail, murder and other reprisals of a political nature, were not included in the amnesty, he said. Those against whom judicial proceedings have already started and who are subject to a sentence of more than three years were also excluded, he added.

Markus Wolf, the former chief of East German espionage, and Hans-Joachim Tiedge, the double agent who fled West Germany for East Germany in 1985, were still subject to prosecution, Herr Engelhard said.

East German spies based in West Germany and still not uncovered will not be automatically pardoned, but the legislation gives them the opportunity to come out provided they surface after October 3, when German unification becomes official.

More than 30 suspected Stasi agents have so far been arrested since the end of 1989 in West Germany. (AFP)



Unity toast: East German leaders Lothar de Maizière, left, and Günther Krause raising their glasses after the treaty signing

UN control backed by Phnom Penh

From JAMES BONE IN NEW YORK

CAMBODIA'S government, backed by Vietnam, said yesterday it would be willing to put key ministries under United Nations supervision until elections are held to end the ten-year civil war. According to the Cambodia News Agency, Hor Nam Hong, the deputy prime minister, said his government accepted an important role for the UN during the transitional period, "notably the right to organise free and fair elections."

He reportedly added: "We also accept that certain important ministries may be supervised by the United Nations, so that the elections can take place in a neutral political environment." The minister's response increased hopes that the Phnom Penh government may be able to reach agreement with the three-party guerrilla coalition.

The five permanent members of the UN Security Council agreed last Tuesday to set up a representative supreme national council and place the ministries of foreign affairs, defence, public security, finance and information under UN control until elections.

The Khmer Rouge and the other two groups in the guerrilla coalition broadly support the UN plan. Scepticism remains, however, about whether the four warring factions will be able to reach agreement at their meeting in Jakarta next week.

Rebels 'kill foreigners' in Liberia

By OUR FOREIGN STAFF

LIBERIAN rebels were reported yesterday to have killed 200 foreign nationals whose governments are taking part in the operation of the West African peace-keeping force trying to end the civil war.

The force was said to have moved yesterday into an area of central Monrovia still controlled by President Doe and was fighting rebels for the strategic Spriggs-Payne airport.

General Arnold Quainoo, the force's commander, said his troops met resistance from the mainstream rebel movement of Charles Taylor near the airfield, previously the frontline between the Doe and Taylor forces. "We have taken Spriggs-Payne. There was heavy fighting there against Taylor's forces," the Ghanaian general said.

A reporter for the Ghana News Agency accompanying the force said the civilians were killed after the it landed on August 25 in Monrovia. The force includes about 3,000 soldiers from Ghana, Nigeria, Guinea, Sierra Leone and The Gambia.

Charles Taylor's guerrillas have attacked the force on several occasions. He confirmed on Thursday that he was holding several thousand foreign nationals who had sought refuge in their countries' embassies. He said the civilians had been moved further behind rebel lines for their own protection.



Taiwan typhoon: A man in Taipei battles strong winds brought by Typhoon Abe which caused flooding and landslides in north Taiwan before hitting China

Walesa at last joins presidential race

From ROGER BOYES IN GDANSK

LECH Walesa, the Solidarity chairman, bolstered by the union's tenth anniversary celebrations, yesterday launched his campaign for the presidency of Poland. There was no formal declaration of intent, but Mr Walesa's speech in the Gdansk shipyard hall where Solidarity was born clearly laid the foundations for a bid.

Standing next to Tadeusz Mazowiecki, the prime minister and a possible rival for the presidency, Mr Walesa made his most statesmanlike speech in more than a year. He emphasised that his repeated criticism of Mr Mazowiecki was merely part of a battle of ideas. Poland had to move more swiftly than under the present administration.

"We have to complete the job that we began here in the shipyards, complete it and then start a new phase," he said. "The revolution is not yet over."

On Thursday, too, he made

clear that he intended to run for the presidency. "If the union wants me to run for it, then it is my duty to do so." The only question was when Mr Walesa would make the switch from a jousting politician, engaging in knockabout with the government, to a presidential candidate.

The switch was made yesterday. Solidarity, he said, was a system of values that spoke for a Poland "without racism, without nationalism, without even the slightest trace of anti-Semitism". That statement marked the first time Mr Walesa had distanced himself from the crude populism of the Polish right.

He has been quoted several times in the past few months, out of context but damaging for all that, as highlighting the Jewish origin of some Solidarity intellectuals, the butt of his criticism. That has attracted fringe nationalist parties to his cause and his

presidential bid. But after a long audience with the Pope in Rome this week Mr Walesa decided to move to more central ground.

The new-look presidential Lech Walesa preaches tolerance and an all-inclusive policy. "We are Poles first, and only then politicians or unionists," he elaborately praised Mieczyslaw Jagielski, the former deputy prime minister and communist co-signatory of the Gdansk agreement. While the shipyard workers clamour for communists to be driven out of all positions of power, Mr Walesa hailed them for having the sense to surrender to Solidarity.

He emphasised that he could work with Mr Mazowiecki. "I do not claim that our concept of change is the only one. Let the ideas compete and let those who express them work together," he said.

Mr Mazowiecki, who travelled to Gdansk on Thursday, has had

an uncomfortable stint on the Baltic coast. The shipyard workers peppered him with their grievances and he was wrongfooted by Mr Walesa. Television news showed him descending from a government jet and saying that he would meet the Solidarity chairman. The news then cut to Mr Walesa declaring that he had no intention of meeting Mr Mazowiecki during his visit to the shipyard.

The atmosphere was sour, and only improved a little in a patched-up encounter between the two leaders at the residence of the bishop of Gdansk yesterday morning. But relations between the two are still frosty.

As for President Jaruzelski, the architect of martial law, he appears not to have been invited to the birthday party. The discussions about his position are now concentrated on how quickly he should move out of his office.

Young and old in Bulgaria gripped by nostalgia for the stability of monarchy

From RICHARD BASSETT IN SOFIA

IN THE bleak concrete Palace of Culture in the heart of Sofia thousands of Bulgarians daily visit a recently opened exhibition devoted to Simeon the Second, aged 53, their king in exile. In the nearby Rakovsky Street, named after a communist revolutionary, the offices of Bulgaria's monarchist party are besieged by well-wishers from all over the country.

Yesterday, in addition to these two areas of royalist fervour, a street exhibition commemorating the Bulgarian royal family which was set up outside the former royal palace attracted hundreds of people within minutes of opening.

The king, who lives in Spain, enjoys several advantages over his fellow dispossessed Balkan monarchs. He is younger than Michael of Romania, brighter than the Crown Prince of Yugoslavia, and less volatile than Prince Leka, son of the legendary King Zog, the heir to the Albanian throne.

Proclaimed king as a minor after his father, Boris, died in mysterious circumstances during the second world war, King Simeon was forced to flee Bulgaria after a rigged communist referendum. Despite more than 40 years' absence from his homeland, he enjoys remarkably widespread respect and support in the country.

The former communists who now rule Bulgaria as socialists have succeeded in preventing the king from returning to what would have been a rapturous welcome. But they no longer dare ban his portrait or pictures of his father. A memorial service for King Boris earlier this month drew tens of thousands of mourners to Sofia.

Many of the visitors to the exhibition in the Palace of Culture are young. They are struck most by the contrast between the bunker-like interior which provides the setting for the exhibition and the scenes on display of an elegant pre-war prosperous Bulgaria. A

nearby visitors' book is eagerly filled with comments. One young student wrote: "Why have we had to wait 25 years to see this important chapter in our history?" Another young visitor simply wrote: "We love our King Simeon."

Politicians from the opposition Union of Democratic Forces umbrella group see the growing uncertainty and instability in the country as encouraging more and more people to turn towards the idea of a monarchy. Even Podkrepa, the independent trade union movement, supports the king. Giorgi Arpadjiev, one of its senior directors, said yesterday: "We cannot ignore the fact that the monarchies in Europe are today among the most stable countries in the world. But we must first democratise Bulgaria before we invite King Simeon back."

Mr Arpadjiev points out that,

whereas five months ago many people would have dismissed the idea of a monarchy, Bulgarians are increasingly looking towards their exiled king as a sorely needed father figure as the economy has deteriorated.

Family trees of the Bulgarian king which are on display in many shops emphasize his relationship through the fertile German house of Saxe-Coburg with the crowned heads of England, Belgium and Sweden.

Among younger people, there is an increasing awareness that King Simeon may actually be preparing a comeback. "It is not just a dream. Some say he has a card but that he is waiting for the right moment to play it," Sophy Walkova, a young student of medicine, said.

The possibility of a restoration of the Bulgarian monarchy still appears remote in the eyes of most Western diplomats here. Mos-

cow's links with the ruling party are still strong, and the socialists would oppose any restoration which could lead to a radical purge of the communists. But monarchists believe the Soviet Union will soon be so engrossed in its own survival it will be powerless to prevent King Simeon returning.

● **BUCHAREST:** Romania has sent an official delegation to Soviet Moldavia for the first time since Moscow annexed the former Romanian territory in 1940. The Bucharest mayor, Stefan Ciurel, yesterday led an official group of Romanians to the consecration of a statue of Moldavian Prince Stephen the Great, one of Romania's historical heroes, in the Soviet republic's capital, Kishinev. Television showed more than 100,000 people thronging the city's central square to watch Daniel Ciobotea, Metropolitan of the Romanian Orthodox Church in Moldavia, bless the statue.

Officials blamed in cigarette row

From MARY DEJEVSKY IN MOSCOW

PRESIDENT Gorbachev has accused central and republican government departments of irresponsibility and poor planning in failing to ensure adequate supplies of cigarettes.

The national cigarette shortage has caused long queues at tobacco kiosks in many cities and the past two weeks have seen mass demonstrations in Moscow and Leningrad as frustrated smokers gathered on main streets and stopped traffic.

In a presidential decree published yesterday Mr Gorbachev rejected the explanations offered by supply departments and said the shortage should have been apparent as early as last year. As well as sacking Vladilen Nikitin,

the minister in charge of purchasing, the decree says leadership in the republics should consider disciplining the individuals responsible and instructs them to act quickly to remedy the problem. Among other things they are told to raise the price of cigarettes from the beginning of next month.

Moscow city council announced last week that it was rationing tobacco from today. Cigarettes outside the quota, including imported cigarettes, must now be sold for "commercial prices" which are up to 15 times higher than the state price. The council also obtained a special consignment of 14 million cigarettes from Bulgaria. Although these were shown in the media being un-

loaded at one of Moscow's main stations, the queues at kiosks are as long as ever.

The correspondence columns of newspapers have started to reflect criticism of the decision to spend precious hard currency on importing cigarettes when medicines are in such short supply.

As Mr Gorbachev's decree recognises, however, millions of frustrated smokers are a potential force for serious civil unrest. People who should be at work spend up to five hours a day in queues for cigarettes without any guarantee that they will be able to buy any. The combination of no cigarettes and no alcohol provoked rioting in the Urals city of Chelyabinsk last weekend.

Shuttle launch off again

Cape Canaveral — NASA postponed the launch of shuttle Columbia after ground controllers lost radio contact with a telescope in the ship's payload bay, and rescheduled the lift-off for Wednesday.

It was the second delay for Columbia, which was grounded for repairs at the end of May due to a fuel leak. (Reuters)

● **KOUROU:** The 38th Ariane space rocket blasted off from this jungle space centre in French Guinea and put a British military communications satellite and a new European telecommunications satellite into orbit. (AFP)

Murder suspects

New York — Police investigating five murders in the last week in the Florida university town of Gainesville are seeking a number of suspects, including a man wanted for the stabbing death and mutilation of a woman aged 52 in Ohio.

Marchers flee

Abidjan — Ivory Coast security forces charged opposition party marchers, clubbing the crowd with batons and firing tear gas to break up a rally near the residence of President Felix Houphouët-Boigny. Several hundred demonstrators have sought refuge in the courtyard of the French Embassy. (AP)

Aids jail victim

Sydney — An Australian prison officer aged 21 said he had tested positive for Aids after a prisoner allegedly stabbed him with a syringe containing blood infected with the virus in Sydney's high-security Long Bay jail on July 22. (Reuters)

Mohawk tension

Montreal — Tension between Canadian authorities and Mohawk Indians rose again after Quebec's decision to break off talks with the Indians on dismantling barricades they erected in a land dispute over the proposed expansion of a golf course onto land the Mohawks claim as their ancestral territory. (AFP)

Miners mourned

Tuzla — Tens of thousands of Yugoslavs flocked to the main square of this Bosnian town to pay their respects to 150 coal miners killed in Yugoslavia's worst mining disaster. Rescue workers are still searching for the bodies of about 30 other miners killed in an explosion on Sunday. (AP)

Unita talks fail

Lisbon — A third round of peace talks between Angola's leftist government and US-backed Unita rebels ended without a ceasefire accord to end 15 years of civil war. Portuguese mediators said. The two sides will meet again next month. (Reuters)

Bruising scrum highlights French farmers' plight

From PHILIP JACOBSON IN ANGERS

SKINNED knuckles and a black eye are Jean-Luc's souvenirs of the day he joined 2,000 other farmers in an assault on the prefecture in the middle of Angers. Carried away on a wave of frustration, cattle and sheep-breeders from all over the department of Maine-et-Loire fought a pitched battle with riot squads for several hours.

To his subsequent astonishment, Jean-Luc, a big man, aged 40, who prefers not to give a surname, found himself in the thick of things, hurling half-bricks, kicking, punching at the front of the crowd, choking on tear gas and finally being knocked flat in a police charge.

"I have not had a fight since I left school and I teach my children to reject violence, but at this moment my feelings were so intense that I had to join my friends," he said. As he was hauled out of the scrum, Jean-Luc saw the head of the local farmers' union being led away by police, his shirt soaked in blood.

That was last Wednesday, when an estimated 200,000 farmers throughout France turned out in disruptive protests against the steep fall in prices for beef and lamb that is driving many of them to the wall. Jean-Luc could hardly be more typical of the hard-

pressed small operators in the Anjou region, struggling to eke a decent living from the sheep and cattle he raises on 148 acres of land inherited from his father.

Over a beer in his local *tabac*, perfectly calm now, Jean-Luc tries to explain what drove farmers like him into the streets at the end of another drought-ridden summer, when a seven-day week of unrelenting labour failed to prevent

his shipping ever closer towards bankruptcy.

"We feel helpless and abandoned, because no matter how hard we work, things are going worse and the government doesn't seem to give a damn. You might read something in the newspapers about beef and lamb prices shooting down and think, well, that must be tough, but you have no idea how terrible the impact is in villages like mine."

Every week, he observes sadly, another of his neighbours calls it a day and abandons the land for good: at this rate, communities that have farmed for centuries will soon disappear. "I can only survive because my wife has an office job in Angers and it is her salary that feeds our family."

Scribbling on a paper napkin, Jean-Luc sets out the harsh arithmetic. The French are eating considerably less beef these days —

consumption fell by 6 per cent last year — while farmers are producing more: fierce foreign competition has cut deeper into the domestic market, forcing prices down to levels ruinous for people like Jean-Luc, deeply in debt.

"Of course, we blame the British first, because you are probably the largest single foreign supplier of beef here. But you should note that lorries from Ireland, Denmark and both the Germanies are also being ambushed."

As for the lamb market, despite growing demand in France and a big rise in domestic production, British and Irish imports are held largely responsible for a catastrophic fall of almost 12 per cent in prices since last year.

"Our union reckons your sales to France went up by at least 200 per cent in 1989, so you can imagine how we feel about competition from Britain. But at least

Mrs Thatcher sticks up for her lamb farmers, while the government here wrings its hands and sympathises but is reluctant to put hard cash on the table. I still haven't received my drought compensation for last year."

One last beer, then Jean-Luc has to return to the farm, working for his creditors. He says with a wry smile. He clearly does not regret the punch-up, but he is troubled by the passions the present conflict has aroused in normally peaceful men like himself.

"People here have been warning the authorities that the situation is almost out of control, and I'm sure the same applies to other regions suffering as badly as we are. The government still seems to think this is just the usual moaning by farmers, you know, while we are sitting on a mattress stuffed with gold. But unless we get help fast, I fear there is a lot worse to come."

High finance, higher ethic

Clifford Longley

Unless they are exceptionally lucky, careful or scrupulous, a few of the above-average number of Jews in the upper echelons of the British business and financial community are bound to be caught up in the occasional business scandal. All four defendants in the Guinness trial were Jews.

From time to time, when Jewish names have been associated with financial notoriety, worried words have come from Jewish leaders. But these things are difficult to say. Any attempt to incite anti-Semitism because of Jewish financial misbehaviour has to be deplored and opposed. But any attempt to minimise or excuse the offence is also unacceptable. The sweeping proposition that Jews are especially inclined to sharp business practices would be a dangerous overstatement, but many non-Jews think they are.

From time to time the insulting secondary meaning of the word "Jew" in some dictionaries causes a stir, from time to time new interpretations of Shylock provoke anxious debate. In folk prejudice the "Jewish banker" is an unkind cliché, but herein lies the problem. He exists.

The Chief Rabbi, Lord Jakobovits, has taken the line that Jews are likely to be judged by more severe standards than others — but that is an inverted compliment. In financial matters, Jews would have to accept an obligation to behave rather better than anyone else, not just to discount prejudice against them but because the heart of Judaism is always the possibility of goodness, a light unto the Gentiles. So the interpretation of the "chosenness" of the Jews is not so much an extra privilege as an extra responsibility.

This is a good pedagogic basis for addressing the issue of financial scandal in which Jews are involved, for it allows them to be gently reprimanded by their spiritual leaders not for being worse than others but for not being better. Unlike Christianity, Judaism does not have a jaded view of wealth; indeed it earns unqualified respect from fellow Jews. Rich Jews are often enormous givers to charity, particularly — and why not? — to Jewish charities. If it is good to give to charity, it must also be good to have the wealth to do so generously.

The disproportionate number of Jews in top financial circles is said to have started with the medieval church's ban on the lending of money for interest — usury, in other words. Jews were exempt from canon law and so they moved into this gap in the market, encouraged, it must be said, by the Christians. The willingness of the Jews to lend money to Christians was useful to the medieval economy and profitable for themselves, but it was most unpopular, to say the least, particularly when unpaid debts had to be collected. So the

despised Jewish moneylender was the creation of Christianity, despised because he was Jewish; despised, above all, because lending money at interest was regarded as a sin. That he was also necessary is where a good measure of Christian hypocrisy came in. But, human nature being what it is, despising someone hypocritically is a reason for despising him even more.

The sense of the "outsiderness" of the Jews which, though declining, still permeates the British Jewish community, has long antecedents. The society in which they live, and the financial system in which they operate, is not quite their own world, and Jewish culture has many elements of a defensive kind drawn from the habit of centuries, from the necessity of survival in a hostile climate.

There is a tendency for any class which is not the dominant class, particularly one that believes it is discriminated against, to treat the rules of society as rules made by the dominant class and slightly optional for everyone else. The culture of trade unionism in Britain still has this tinge of subversiveness, of wanting to create an enclosed world fenced off from the interference of outside lawmakers. They see laws restricting trade unionism as there to be outwitted, rather than willingly obeyed.

The largest group of such cultural outsiders in Britain is the Roman Catholic community, which consciously sets out to provide for itself a comprehensive set of social and welfare institutions, clubs, schools, hospitals, orphanages, homes for unmarried mothers and the elderly insulated from the moral standards prevailing outside.

Roman Catholics still resist the idea that alterations to the interior of their churches, for instance, should be subject to statutory planning control, as if the inside of a Catholic church were somehow nothing to do with anyone else. Jews have much the same view of a synagogue, Muslims of a mosque.

These "outsider" perspectives give their holders the sense of having only one foot grounded in secular civil society, the other in another place altogether. It generates a highly creative tension, leading to good art and literature, and providing the background for incisive social criticism.

There can be a negative side, however, creating a climate of "us" against "them" in which the rules applying to the way "we" treat each other do not quite apply to the treatment of "them". Quiet voices are to be heard in the Jewish community from time to time expressing unease that such attitudes are more common than they ought to be among Jewish financiers. And recognising that such a malady exists is the first condition for curing it.

...and moreover

MATTHEW PARRIS

I have just seen a man eating a fluorescent light tube. We were standing in the main square of Cuzco, in the Peruvian Andes. A small demonstration against President Fujimori's "shock" economic policies ("Señor Fujichoque" they are calling him) had passed peacefully and the precautionary 20th-century water cannon was rumbling back to its stand-by position next to the 16th-century cathedral.

"This", says my guidebook, "was the great civic square of the Incas, flanked by their palaces. It was a place of solemn parades and great assemblies." I bet they never ate fluorescent lights, though. As we watched, a small group of Indians — peasants and townsmen — began to form around a couple of street performers. Soon it was a crowd. We joined it. We were the only foreigners.

The performers' leader was of mixed blood, Hispanic and Indian. He had the patter. The other was quiet and looked a little nervous. He was a young Indian, about 18.

But the warm-up act was performed by their accomplice, a boy who could not have been more than eight years old. He strutted around the ring, wise-cracking and telling jokes in Spanish and Quechua (the Indian language, and language of the Incas) to howls of laughter from the crowd. He had the hard-bitten, roguish familiarity of an Indian Artful Dodger.

Among the crowd, and laughing along with them, was a girl who my mother said was no more than four, carrying on her back an 18-month-old toddler and on her face the cares already of an infant older sister. Childhood is very short in Peru.

system" — he patted — "and finally depart." He indicated whence. The crowd roared.

After eating, a collection will be taken. All who doubt, get your money ready now.

"First, however, my friend will fracture the tube by breaking it over his head. I present the marvel of the Andes, the electrician's nightmare, the tube-eater of Peru!"

For the first time, the young Indian spoke. His voice was soft. He lacked the pantomime bravado of his manager.

"I will break the tube on your count of ten," he said. "Every particle will be ingested. You will forgive me if I leave the metal elements."

"He's stalling," someone said.

"One," shouted some cruel soul in the audience. "Two."

The cry was taken. "Ten!"

There was a pause after "Ten", then *smash*. Thin slivers of glass poured down over the Indian's head and his face was covered in fine white powdered chemical. A yelp of astonishment rose from the onlookers. In one hand, he held one half of the fluorescent tube, in the other, the remainder.

There was another pause. He opened his mouth. He had good teeth, strong and white. Silence had fallen on the crowd. The youth seemed to rally his confidence. Firmly he pushed about two inches of one jagged section, still raining white chemical, into his mouth, and bit. The crowd shuddered. He withdrew the tube, shorter now, and held it like a stick of lollipop. He chuckled. The crowd's curiosity had turned to horror, perhaps shame.

Gingerly, the youth swallowed, making two attempts. Then he opened his mouth for another bite, of the other half. At the fourth bite, I left. This morning, there were still slivers of glass around the spot where the boy had made his meal.

"The actual surface of the square," says Peter Frost's excellent *Exploring Cuzco*, "which is reported to have been of white sand from the coast, mingled with numerous tiny ritual objects, of gold, silver, coral, shells..."

And fluorescent light tube?

Among the responses to the Kuwait crisis in the American media and among strategic analysts, one of the more prominent has been a sense of satisfaction at the rapid projection of US military force halfway across the globe. After all the worrying talk of decline, it is clear once again that only America has the capacity to despatch large military forces to Saudi Arabia, to deter further Iraqi aggression and preserve international order.

By comparison, the Germans and Japanese, touted as the new economic superpowers, have failed the basic test: the European Community has again displayed the weaknesses of not being a unitary state; a weakened Soviet Union is playing a marginal role.

America is still number one, the actor dominating the world's stage. Far from displaying imperial overstretch, it has robustly demonstrated its quasi-imperial power. The only worry at present is whether the American public has the will to support a conflict that might be long and bloody.

Yet this focus on military capability, or on national will-power, may obscure rather than illuminate the larger question of America's real position in world affairs and the critically important, non-military dimensions of national power. If we allow this to happen, we will be repeating the blindness of many earlier great powers engaged in large-scale military operations abroad.

Consider, for example, Spain's decision in 1634 to send a powerful army into Germany to join its beleaguered Austrian Habsburg cousins during the Thirty Years War. Its infantry and generals were first-rate, its deployment (from Spain via Milan, the Alps, the upper Rhine) swift and professional, its troops moving to the battlefield from a wide array of Spanish bases and possessions.

No other European nation at the time could equal such force projection; Spain, it was clear, was still number one militarily. Yet in the non-military dimensions of power it was beginning to sag badly: massive debts, inefficient industries, reliance on foreign manufactures, vested interests that debilitated rather than strengthened.

Little attention was paid to



Paul Kennedy, citing historical precedents, sees Bush engaged in a classic example of imperial overstretch

those features in the excitement of watching the glittering Spanish battalions pour into the Rhineland. By the 1640s, however, the suspension of interest payments and declarations of bankruptcy by Spanish kings revealed the decline of Spanish power.

Or consider the stupendous British force projection in the South African war, 6,000 miles from home, at the turn of the century. Before that war was won, the British had poured in more than 300,000 troops from all over the globe — India, the Near East, Australia, Canada and Britain itself. Simultaneously, the Royal Navy controlled the sea lanes; British cable communications had a world-wide monopoly; no other contemporary power could equal its global position.

In the upsurge of British patriotism, however, it was easy to forget the other part of the story: the inadequate educational system, the meagre levels of invest-

ment, industry's growing uncompetitiveness, the vast trade deficit in manufactured goods. Those weaknesses would one day cause the collapse of British power.

Is there a lesson here for the US? Many will doubtless claim that America in 1990 is not like Spain in 1634 or Britain in 1900. (And they will be right: no two countries in history are ever alike.) But that misses the basic point, which is that to remain number one generation after generation requires not just military capability, not just national will, but a flourishing and efficient economic base on which the nation's military strength ultimately rests.

This, then, is the larger irony of President Bush's bold commitment of strong American forces to Saudi Arabia. The cause may be just, the deployment impressive and the actual fighting by US forces — if it comes to that — may demonstrate efficiency and resolve. But all this will divert

national attention, energies and resources from dealing with America's growing fiscal, technological and educational weaknesses. Mr Bush, like Philip IV of Spain, prefers the glorious role of commander-in-chief to haggling over budget deficits; and much of the American media reflects that inclination.

The most significant news item of recent weeks, however, was not dattelined Baghdad or Kennebunkport but appeared on an inside page of *The Wall Street Journal* on August 21. It reported that next year's budget deficit will almost certainly be the largest in American history, between \$250 billion and \$300 billion.

The cost of the military deployment (estimated by some to reach \$1.5 billion before October, even if no shots are fired), the likelihood of smaller cuts in overall defence spending (or none at all), the difficulty of raising the tax on petrol, the economic slowdown

and consequent fall in revenues, will all weaken America's fiscal position. In consequence, the article concluded, the cuts in government spending authorised by the Gramm-Rudman budget law probably likely to be cancelled by legislation later this year.

Is it any surprise that the dollar's value has been sagging, the stock market tumbling, and voices are heard demanding that super-rich Japan and Germany help pay the spiralling cost of America's force projection?

The United States may get out of the Gulf quite soon without serious fighting and cost. On the other hand, it may be dragged into a long and expensive stay in the Arab world which, whatever the military outcome and popular mood, will certainly worsen its fiscal position and make it increasingly dependent on foreign capital, as happened to Britain when it lingered too long east of Aden until the Suez crisis.

For that reason alone, it may be premature to dismiss Tokyo and Bonn as being relegated to the margins of world affairs. Imperial overstretch has rarely occurred because a great power had too little military force; on the contrary, it was likely still to possess massive forces and at times to deploy them a long way from home. The real problem, it seems, has not been the force-projection capacities of the current number one, but a failure to recognise that long-term wealth and strength depend on the non-military dimensions of national power and on making hard political decisions on the home front.

The emperors, kings, prime ministers and presidents of great powers have always preferred the heady world of diplomacy, war and international affairs to the unglamorous realm of fiscal reform, educational change and domestic renewal. That is understandable, since they will go down in history as leaders of this or that spectacular demonstration of the country's still-powerful military capacity. It is left to later generations to pay the price.

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Paul Kennedy, a professor of history at Yale University, is author of *The Rise and Fall of the Great Powers*.

Marcus Binney sets out a programme to preserve the heritage of Britain's inner cities

New life for the castles of industry

As it considers the call by Peter Palumbo, chairman of the Arts Council, to spend £1 billion to repair Britain's museums and galleries by the year 2000, the government should not overlook great buildings languishing for want of use.

France offers an example. A chain of former abbeys now known as the Centre Culturelle de Rencontre house state-supported and voluntary arts and research bodies. They are open to the public, hold art, science and industry exhibitions and are used as conference centres. They include the 8th-century Abbey of the Premontre, near Nancy, Fontevraud by the Loire, and Senanque near Orange, which contains a centre for Gregorian chant.

The joker in the pack is Louis XV's neo-classical saltworks, now at Senanque, near Besancon, now the portentously named Centre for Reflections on the Future. The conference facilities are fully booked throughout the year and even the TGV makes a special stop on the way to Lausanne. In the great steam houses where the salt was dried, audiences of 2,000 or more watch ballet and drama. Nearby is the best architectural bookshop in France.

As England's great abbeys were largely destroyed during the Reformation it is Arc-et-Senans to which we should look. For what Britain does possess is an unsurpassed series of major industrial monuments: anywhere: mills, maltings and warehouses and magnificent naval dockyards. Here the government could give new impetus to initiatives already underway — part voluntary, part commercial — many enjoying local authority support.

My first candidate would be Manningham Mills in Bradford, which soars above the city like the Capitoline Palace in Rome. In layout it is rather more like Florence's Uffizi, with twin parallel ranges and a chimney as elaborate and nearly as tall as the Campanile in St Mark's Square.

At the top of which the directors dined on the opening night. There are encouraging signs that the environment department may soon approve a big grant for Manningham Mills, with a new hotel in one range and a northern home for part of the V&A's Indian collection in the other.

Moving south, the next major candidate could be the spectacular Maltings at Sleaford in Lincolnshire. "For sheer impressiveness,"

says Pevsner, "little in English industrial architecture can equal the scale of the building." The total frontage is nearly 1,000ft, consisting of seven parallel ranges with a soaring central tower, all linked by overhead bridges. Here is a site full of industrial archaeology — all the canopies, hoists, platforms and even the railway lines erected between 1892 and 1905.

Among the great complexes of naval buildings that reinforced British supremacy at sea is the Naval Hospital in Great Yarmouth, completed in 1809-11. An injection of funds could transform the prospects of the trusts running the Chatham and Portsmouth dockyards, both of which, for all their steady increase in visitor numbers, have exciting plans hampered for want of resources.

In Bristol there is another prime candidate in the major complex of buildings, all grade I listed, which have grown around Brunel's original 1840 Great Western Terminus. The engine shed now houses a science display and a Museum of Empire and Commonwealth is planned for the adjoining passenger terminus. Another train shed is being restored, its use yet to be decided.

Lancashire has any number of textile mills suitable for conversion, but the most spectacular challenge is posed by the 14-storey tobacco warehouse in Liverpool — the largest brick warehouse in the world. A scheme has been drawn up to convert the building almost into a self-contained city, with an exhibition centre and shops on the ground floor, four storeys of parking above and offices and apartments on the upper floors.

Scotland and Wales both have prime candidates. In Paisley is the handsome Ferguslie Mill, the best building of its kind in Scotland, now fast becoming derelict. In south Wales stands the Brynmawr Rubber Factory, the greatest monument in the Festival of Britain style outside London, with nine huge shallow domes on a noughts and crosses plan, each lit by a central oculus.

Some of the most dramatic transformations have been carried out by private entrepreneurs. The mill at Salford, outside Bradford, the centrepiece of a model village of nearly 1,000 houses created by Sir Titus Salt, has sprung back to life since Jonathan Silver acquired it some three years ago. It now houses Britain's largest collection of Hockneys, and two floors were

recently let to electronics firms. In Halifax, Ernest Hall took on more than a million square feet of empty space at Dean Clough Mills. Now it houses 200 small companies, employing 2,500 people. Insurance companies have occupied whole floors, followed by the Halifax Building Society.

Some 20 years ago the government commissioned four great studies of historic towns — Bath, Chester, Chichester and York — which not only led to major conservation programmes in each but became the foundation of conservation policies in historic towns across the country.

Now it has a similar opportunity. By co-ordinating existing grant programmes, by injecting new funds into existing voluntary projects, and initiating a small number of wholly new ventures, the government could produce a spectacular programme of restoration and regeneration which need not cost vast sums. It would bring conservation enterprise to those areas that most need it — industrial cities which until recently have been in decline, and to the heart of the inner city, where new jobs are urgently needed.

The author is president of SAVE Britain's Heritage.

Beaches rather than benches

Nell Kincock's initiative in asking for the recall of Parliament could blow up in his face. Labour whips are bracing themselves for the possibility of mass absenteeism for the two-day showpiece debate on the Gulf crisis at the end of next week, with anything up to 100 of their backbenchers preferring not to interrupt their holidays. Although the official Labour line is that it is only imposing a "soft whip", party managers concede privately that as it was Kincock who was instrumental in forcing the recall, anything less than a full turn-out will be embarrassing.

MPs on both sides of the House were instructed to leave holiday telephone numbers with the whips in the event of an emergency, but Labour whips admit their ambitions do not extend beyond persuading 60 per cent of their 224 MPs to abandon the beaches and return to Westminster. All 14 whips will be working round the clock on the telephone over the weekend to try to ensure as large a muster as they possibly can.

And many Labour MPs who do turn up may do Kincock more harm than good. The hard left, which yesterday launched a "stop the war" campaign, is certain to be present in strength, criticising the British military presence in the Gulf and undermining Kincock's efforts to put up a united front. Its leading spokesman, Tony Benn, as a privy councillor, can count on an early call to speak in the televised debate.

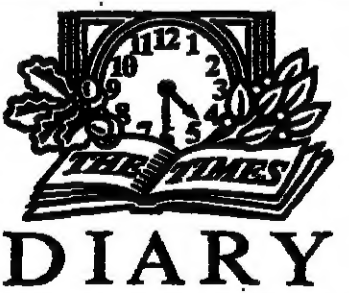
Unlike Labour, the Tories have not yet started to track down their backbenchers but estimates vary between a 70 and 90 per cent turnout. One whip is already on his way back from Florida and another on a plane home from Zimbabwe. A third, already naming the fort, says: "When we telephone our flock most will come straight back. There will be a few on package holidays committed to a specific flight home and one or two will be out of contact because they are on safari." Presumably the tom-toms are already being arranged.

Chatterley challenge

The model for the upwardly mobile lover of D.H. Lawrence's Lady Chatterley was not a British gardener at all but a Sicilian mule-driver called Pepino. At least, so says a book just published in Italy, which also claims that the inspiration for the errant high society lady was none other than the novelist's wife, Frieda Lawrence.

According to the Italian writer and journalist Gaetano Saglimbeni in *The Sins And Loves Of Taormina*, a spicy account of goings-on in the once fashionable resort, Frieda began a torrid affair with the muleteer in a garden vineyard when she was 43 and he 24. According to Saglimbeni, Pepino D'Allura boasted of his exploits in the pubs and clubs of Taormina and was only the first in a line of Frieda's Italian lovers.

Lawrence experts are sceptical. Jeffrey Meyer, author of a new biography of Lawrence published yesterday, says: "It's not inconceivable that this man had sex



with Frieda, and she certainly had affairs after her marriage to Lawrence. But it is unlikely that he was the model for Lady Chatterley's lover. Lawrence carefully gave both Lord Chatterley and the lover parts of his own make-up. The gardener was based on aspects of Lawrence himself." Or, perhaps, aspects of what he would have liked to be himself?

● The Stage, organ of the theatrical world, is having difficulty coming to terms with the new arts minister David Mellor. Every time staff type his name, the memory banks of its desktop publishing system refuse to recognise him as someone even vaguely connected with the world of entertainment. Instead it offers a stream of alternatives, from *Moliere to Mailer*, and including *Mitzi Meuller*, the woman wrestler.

Pitting his wits

Arthur Scargill's disclosure that he is writing a book about how he managed to outwit the receiver, the sequestrators and the courts during the miners' strike appeared to have caught the publishing world

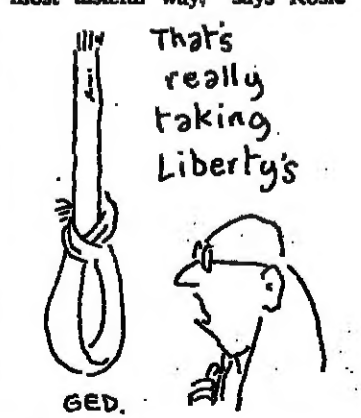
on the hop yesterday. Scargill's office was predictably tight-lipped on the subject, and a quick check of London literary agents drew a blank. "I'm not sure of the smaller radical publishers," suggested one. But all three leading left-wing publishing houses, Verso, Lawrence & Wishart and Spokesman Books, denied any knowledge of a Scargill tome.

Friends of Scargill say he has been writing the book for some time, and recent events surrounding the Lightman enquiry into the NUM's finances have only served to heighten interest. But they too, were unable to throw any light on publication plans. Nor could Nicholas Clee news editor of *The Bookseller*. However, Clee added that if Scargill is prepared to deal with the big capitalist publishing houses, he could be looking at a six-figure sum. Should socialist scruple get in the way, might the TUC publish his machinations as a handbook for any other union falling foul of the sequestrator? No comment, says a spokesman.

Bespoke

The suggestion that your product can kill might not seem the most obvious selling point, but it has not deterred Liberty's. The refined couturier's latest advertising campaign suggests that Isadora Duncan was wearing a Liberty scarf when she met her fate in 1927. The ads show a car wheel eating up a red scarf with the line: "The Liberty scarf has long been a favourite in artistic circles. Isadora Duncan wore one till the day she died."

whose prints have become almost a by-word for graceful English fashion? "It's been done in the most tasteful way," says Rosie



Arnold of the Bartle Bogle Hegarty advertising agency. "The ad is a respectful obituary to Isadora as well. There is no suggestion that if you buy a Liberty scarf you might end up strangled to death in your Bugatti on the Promenade des Anglais in Nice. You are supposed to keep your feet a little bit on the ground when reading it."

● As enthusiasts gather in Glasgow this weekend for the International Conclave of the Miniature Book Society, one man will not be able to show off the pride of his collection. Ian MacDonald thought he had the best example of all. He sent the book, *Little more than a inch long and bound in red leather, to his local library. It was dropped on the floor, which has a vacuum cleaner at the time, and the book has not been seen since.*



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SIREN VOICES IN THE GULF

King Hussein should not have been surprised by Mrs Thatcher's refusal yesterday even to consider his "solution" to the tension in the Gulf. Almost inevitably at this stage, would-be peacemakers are searching for shades of grey with which to soften the starkness of Iraq's aggression against Kuwait.

The King's pastel sketch would hand Iraq a barely camouflaged victory. He proposes parallel withdrawals of Iraq from Kuwait and foreign forces from Saudi Arabia, an Arab peacekeeping force in the emirate and a referendum or elections six months later to choose a new government — which would assign Iraq certain rights over Kuwait.

King Hussein is not the only scheme on the market. As weeks go by without an Iraqi withdrawal and American forces increase their combat-readiness, there will be more calls for ways to save face for President Saddam Hussein. These will take two principal forms. The first will seek (as Saddam himself has suggested) a link between Kuwait and other Middle Eastern imbrolios. The second will involve inserting a "democratic" subtext into the UN resolutions, on the ground that the West must not be seen to side with autocratic privilege, as exemplified by Kuwait's ruling al-Sabah family.

Yesterday, with the ink barely dry on Neil Kinnock's thoroughly supportive letter to Mrs Thatcher requesting the recall of parliament, the shadow foreign secretary, Gerald Kaufman, tried his hand at the first genre. Once Iraq had withdrawn, he said, the UN should immediately convene a conference to defuse the entire "Middle East powder-keg". His agenda included self-determination for the Palestinians, peace treaties between Israel and all its neighbours, a Syrian withdrawal from Lebanon and — plus hope — a "code of practice" governing arms sales to the region.

Dilution of the central fact of Iraq's aggression is no recipe for the peace on earth and goodwill to all men Mr Kaufman seeks. Even before parliament meets, Mr Kinnock should disavow any thought of countenancing such farious linkage. The second strand of thinking is superficially more attractive.

The West's commitment to restoring Kuwait's sovereignty and territorial integrity, this argument runs, need not, perhaps should not, imply shoring up the al-Sabah throne. There is a "golden opportunity" to make Kuwait a

model democracy, free to choose its rulers. Western publics, it is maintained, will demand no less, if western forces are to protect the emirate after Iraq retreats. Perhaps, therefore, the United Nations should oversee free elections?

The security council's resolution 661 commits the United Nations "to restore the authority of the legitimate government of Kuwait". The al-Sabah claim is the only legitimate one, as even Kuwait's opposition agrees. The emir must be restored to his throne.

The distinction between encouraging democracy, and imposing it, should be clearly drawn. Stability in the Middle East may ultimately depend on the emergence of governments accountable to, and mandated by, popular vote. But talk of UN-supervised political reform in Kuwait is patronising, irresponsible and if acted on would be unlawful. To attach conditions to the restoration of Kuwaiti sovereignty would not only represent a victory for Saddam, one of whose early demands was the al-Sabahs' departure, but would be a disgraceful intrusion in the internal affairs of a country which has suffered enough from unwanted foreign attentions.

There must be no fudging of the UN resolutions: unconditional Iraqi withdrawal and restoration of Kuwait's legal government. Kuwaitis must be free to sort out their own salvation, resuming the national debate over the restoration of parliamentary democracy (with which, in contrast to most of its neighbours, Kuwait has actually experimented) rudely interrupted by Iraq's invasion. Westerners would do well, meanwhile, to recall that in a country where 60 per cent of the pre-invasion population was foreign, universal suffrage is not a simple matter. It will be even less simple now, since even if Iraq is forced to withdraw, Saddam will have had weeks in which to reinforce his fifth column.

Kuwait is a relatively advanced polity and has an articulate and well-educated middle class. The al-Sabah family has an interest in rebuilding national confidence and is likely to be more receptive than before to demands for political freedom. Close contact with, and gratitude to, their Western allies will assist the process. None of this will happen unless Saddam is decisively driven back. The world should concentrate on that with all the single-mindedness at its command.

COAL IN THE RED

Digging coal is no more a natural monopoly than catching fish or harvesting wheat. But since British mines were nationalised in a wave of emotion after the second world war, they have been so cosseted against foreign competition that they would now last barely a week in the private sector. This year's results from British Coal only serve to emphasise how difficult — or painful — privatisation would be.

To its credit, the industry has slimmed down hugely since the 1984-5 miners' strike. Then it had 169 collieries and 221,000 workers; now, 69 collieries and a workforce of fewer than 80,000. Productivity has more than doubled. But still this progress is not enough for the industry to stand on its own feet.

British Coal sells 97 per cent of its output in Britain, at prices 50 per cent above the world market price, thanks to fixed contracts with power stations. Yet despite this cosy arrangement, the company's operating profit fell from £498 million to £133 million in the 1989-90 financial year. That meagre profit was more than wiped out by a painful £574 million interest charge.

After restructuring costs, the bottom-line loss was £5.1 billion. These costs, of course, are one-off; and the restructuring of the company's debt will mean that interest charges will be much lower in the future. But British Coal still has not sorted out its management problems: productivity in the past year rose less than half as fast as running costs; and there were 173 local disputes, 160 of them in Arthur Scargill's home base of Yorkshire. Most pits lie idle for one day a week, some for two.

Nor does the longer term look rosier. British Coal's contracts to supply the new electricity generating companies provide a measure of stability, but only for three years. After that the power generators will have the freedom to buy as much imported coal as they like, subject to

any EC tariff restrictions, and will owe it to their shareholders to buy coal at the lowest possible cost. At current prices, it is cheaper to put Australian coal on a boat, sail it halfway round the world, unload it at British docks and transport it to inland power stations, than to buy it from British Coal. The difference is due partly to geological good fortune, partly to more flexible working practices. The former is bad luck on Britain; the latter can and should be addressed.

The hard truth is that British Coal has to contract still further, some say by as much as half, before it can become economically viable. Many pits are still uneconomic and will have to be closed if British coal is to become internationally competitive, though if miners could be persuaded to do more weekend shifts, the number of closures could be reduced.

To make matters worse, environmental worries mean that power stations are under pressure to burn gas rather than coal; and low-sulphur rather than high-sulphur coal. British coal tends to be high in sulphur, and getting rid of the chemical is very expensive. Not to get rid of it, however, leads to acid rain; and Britain has entered international commitments to clean up the output of its smokestacks.

Unless British Coal manages to renegotiate favourable contracts with the generating companies in 1993, its revenues will be highly uncertain. It will not be an attractive investment proposition — except perhaps to the generating companies themselves, who might want to control their own supply. But even they will have to be persuaded that domestic coal could be produced more cheaply than it can be shipped in and more cheaply than gas. At current levels, there is no reason to suppose that it can. Thursday's results were bad news for the industry: further contraction is now inevitable.

CRIMES OF PETER RABBIT

As the Middle East totters on the brink of war and governments strive to fend off economic recession, an encouraging glimmer of light shines through the darkness: *Times* readers have rediscovered Peter Rabbit.

An item in *The Times* Diary three weeks ago reported that while Noddy was being taken to the cleaners — goliwogs and spanking sessions have been censured — Beatrix Potter's most celebrated hero was to star in a £12 million film. The producer assured his public unequivocally that Peter was morally and ethically squeaky clean.

But was that so? His biographer described him as "very naughty". Readers have pointed out that he not only disobeyed his mother but along with his young cousin, Benjamin Bunny, was a habitual thief and mischief-maker — despite the whippings dealt out by Bunny Senior.

Correspondents who have leapt to his defence have argued that Peter was below the age of criminal responsibility. Though guilty, it would seem, of two offences, namely criminal damage and theft (of Mr McGregor's lettuce, radishes and French beans), his youth should have saved him from the full majesty of the law. Justice would best be served, suggested one reader, by Mr McGregor seeking compensation against Peter's mother under the small claims procedure in the county court.

On the other hand the aggrieved Mr McGregor should beware of pressing his case against widow Rabbit, who could file a counter-claim against him in respect of the loss of her late husband's support. How far Mr Rabbit was the author of his misfortune would

probably be the principal legal issue if the case were heard under the Fatal Accidents Act. But the evidence that he was "put in a pie by Mrs McGregor" would probably sway the court against the plaintiff — and in favour of the widow. The consequent damages payable by the gardener would far exceed the cost of his own vegetables.

Peter Rabbit was not alone in setting a poor example to our children. Squirrel Nutkin and Tom Kitten were young tearaways and Samuel Whiskers a bit of an old rogue. Jemima Puddleduck was more sinned against than sinning. She was always such a bad sister that her eggs had to be taken away at birth and placed in care. But perhaps poor Jemima was a frustrated careerist for whom the farmer should have provided a crèche.

Winnie the Pooh was obese, lazy and illiterate. William Brown was in most respects worse. As for Alice, the object of Lewis Carroll's infatuation, she would have taken sweets from any stranger. Confronted by a bottle inscribed "Drink Me", Alice resisted the temptation only momentarily. After tasting it — "it had a sort of mixed flavour of cherry tart, custard, pineapple, roast turkey, toffee and hot buttered toast" — she promptly drank it.

It seems hardly surprising that after next swallowing a cake marked "Eat me" she started seeing caterpillars smoking hookah pipes, sitting on magic mushrooms. Alice in wonderland was desperately in need of moral guidance. And as for that young chameleon, Snow White... How successive generations of British children have turned out as well as they have is to be marvelled at.

Buyers as threat to sheep farmers

From Mr Charles Wyatt

Sir, Sheep farmers in France are getting a bad press over here (report, August 30, later editions). But the French have a point, and British farmers ignore it at their peril.

On both sides of the Channel flockmasters have a common enemy, the supermarket buyer. More than 70 per cent of all lambs slaughtered in this country are sold to the British public by five national retail groups at hefty profit margins.

The strength lies with this powerful buyer, not with small, disorganised, sellers. In France the situation is similar and the problems are made that much worse by the traditional size of flocks and the geography. French sheep farmers do not specialise, so 500 ewes is a large flock, and they do not have the hill/lowland structure which makes ours such an efficient industry.

So far we have had it pretty good in this country, but the demise of the EC's variable premium, over-production and the weather have changed all that. Hence the increase in export numbers in France are already pared to the bone by the supermarkets, so their reaction is understandable.

The constructive response

Conflict in the Gulf

From Mrs M. Hossain

Sir, John Gray ("Worse than a madman: a fanatic exploiting religion", August 28) has done a great injustice to Islam and Muslims. It seems to have escaped his notice that Saddam Hussein has been involved (with Western support) in a long war against another Muslim country (Iran), has overrun a neighbouring Muslim country (Kuwait) and is threatening the Muslim country which contains the two holiest places of Islam, Mecca and Medina.

None of this was done for Islam, "militant" or otherwise. Saddam Hussein's aggressive behaviour resembles that seen in tyrants and dictators throughout history in both East and West.

John Gray does a grave disservice to understanding between Muslims and Christians by describing Muslims as having "a radically different mentality". This smacks too much of dehumanising your opponent prior to annihilating him.

Muslims exist throughout the whole world and are as rational as anyone else. Indeed they would claim that the Koran puts a high premium on reason and invites

Justice and the Birmingham Six

From Mr Jeremy Maurice

Sir, In your leader, "Justice of appeal" (August 30), you state that even fair-mindedness cannot be taken for granted in the judiciary. In support of this you cite as an example Lord Denning, probably the most fair-minded judge of his generation, in the civil action for damages for assault by the Birmingham Six. You say that

Lord Denning... [said] that the consequences of the possibility that the police were guilty of wholesale perjury (not to mention assaulting prisoners in their custody for the extraction of confessions) were too awful to contemplate.

This is not correct, and you do Lord Denning a serious injustice. The case is reported under the name *McKenny v Chief Constable* [1980] 1 QB 283. The Court of Appeal was concerned solely with a preliminary issue of law as to whether matters that had been conclusively determined in a criminal trial (and such matters, save for the final verdict, are rare) could be reopened in civil proceedings — a question of estoppel. In the case of the Birmingham Six there had been such a determination, as the trial judge had held a "trial within a trial" on the assault allegations and delivered a judgement on them.

Lord Denning in his judgment, reported at page 323, referred to "an appalling vista" being opened up by a retrial in a civil action, years after the event, of the very same issues which had been conclusively determined in a criminal trial. It was not the consequences of the possibility of the police committing perjury that he refused to entertain, but of the civil courts being used to re-litigate criminal cases. He went on to say that "the only way in which the six men could hope to overcome the estoppel (against a civil action) would be by adducing fresh evidence".

What is clear, however, from the recent cases is the urgent need for a change in criminal appeal procedures to handle cases such as those of the Birmingham Six along the lines suggested by Sir Frederick Lawton.

Yours faithfully,
JEREMY MAURICE,
Holbeck House,
9/11 Broad Street,
Bristol, Avon.

human beings to think. John Gray's article is irrational in that it distorts the facts in order to make Islam a bogeyman for the West, whatever the complexities of the real situation.

Yours faithfully,
M. HOSSAIN,
6 Mount Pleasant,
Belfast,
August 28.

From Mrs B. S. Watson

Sir, In this world crisis Iraq and other Muslim countries talk of the unacceptability of foreigners in the vicinity of their holy places. Iraq has even dared to suggest a holy war on this account.

It is not strange that there is, as yet, not so much as a whisper regarding the precious sites and treasures of Christianity both in Jordan and Israel? These could be exterminated together with the surrounding terrain in the event of open conflict. Surely it is time for somebody to speak up and show that we too value our faith and holy places.

Yours truly,
B. S. WATSON,
Tumblehome, 18 Bourne Avenue,
Salisbury, Wiltshire,
August 24.

From pillar to post

From the Rector of Ashton-in-Makerfield

Sir, The Rector of Odd Rode (August 21) is not alone in having address problems. I pay my poll tax to St Helens, which is now in Merseyside, but my postal address is Wigan, Lancashire, although Wigan is now in Greater Manchester. Life, in ways too numerous to mention, was so much easier in the days of the old county boundaries.

In the last two months I have received much mail, correctly addressed, but wrongly delivered, including a chequebook for my next-door neighbour and a bank statement for the Rector of Wigan. My favourite, however, was a letter correctly addressed and postmarked to the Rector of Wigan, some many miles away in Cumbria. I must own that I was unable to resist the temptation to write upon the envelope, "Try using the postcode".

Yours faithfully,
DAVID ABBOTT,
The Rectory,
North Ashton,
Wigan, Lancashire,
August 21.

From Ms Olive Treweek

Sir, The Rector of Odd Rode finds himself in a quandary which

Classical hits

From Mr David Lee

Sir, May I set today's third leader straight. The title of the hit song taken from Chopin's *Fantasia Impromptu* is "I'm Always Chasing Rainbows" (you probably muddled it up with "I'm Forever Blowing Bubbles").

Among other hit songs from classical themes are "Full Moon and Empty Arms" (Rachmaninov), "This is the Story of a Starry Night" (Tchaikovsky) and "Bambles, Bangles and Beads" (Borodin).

Greenhouse gamble

From Mr John Dunster

Sir, Dr Browning (August 17) comments that global warming "will not go away just because some people doubt its existence". Quite so, but the solutions may vanish. The inventor of the phrase "the greenhouse effect" has much to answer for. It sounds both benign and domestic, but it may be neither. If it takes the form of a simple rise in temperature and a slow rise in sea level, we can probably make the necessary adjustments, at a price. It is much less likely that we could cope with the serious, and possibly rapid, climatic changes that are forecast by some computer models.

At present, society seems to have been lulled into a belief that quite simple changes in the life-style of the industrialised nations will be enough to avoid disaster. Even these changes will be difficult to achieve and it is simply not realistic to expect countries like India and China to follow suit by restricting their energy consumption and their combustion of fossil fuels.

would not have happened had we not allowed ourselves to be "conned" at the time the administrative counties were re-styled. The White Paper preceding the 1974 legislation specifically stated that traditional counties would remain for all other purposes — county loyalties would be unaffected.

Yet the Post Office and a number of non-statutory bodies, including Ordnance Survey and the National Trust, appear to have extended the remit of the Act to every aspect of county recognition.

There is a considerable movement in this country working to try and rectify this position by using the traditional counties on personal and business stationery and in addressing outgoing post. The postcode — as the last item on the address — is used as well, to aid the Post Office sorting mechanism.

If more people were to adopt this procedure, the postal sorting problem would be relieved and a lot of ruffled feathers would be soothed.

Yours faithfully,
OLIVE TREWECK,
14 The Rowans, York Road,
Wetherby,
West Riding,
Yorkshire LS22 5EB,
August 21.

From the Reverend R. Grimley

Sir, This morning's post contained a letter from a local firm, addressed to me as "The Marketing Manager, St George's Church". I suppose this view of the clergy's role is one possible interpretation of the text in the parable of the unjust steward, "Make to yourselves friends of the mammon of unrighteousness" (Luke 16:9).

Yours truly,
ROBERT GRIMLEY,
St George's Vicarage,
3 Westbourne Road,
Birmingham, West Midlands,
August 28.

Spiritual enterprise

From the Reverend R. Grimley

Sir, This morning's post contained a letter from a local firm, addressed to me as "The Marketing Manager, St George's Church". I suppose this view of the clergy's role is one possible interpretation of the text in the parable of the unjust steward, "Make to yourselves friends of the mammon of unrighteousness" (Luke 16:9).

Yours truly,
ROBERT GRIMLEY,
St George's Vicarage,
3 Westbourne Road,
Birmingham, West Midlands,
August 28.

Travellers' fare

From Mr C. M. Lloyd Jones

Sir, Bernard Levin's article (August 20) about meals on Atlantic flights is reminiscent of Atlantic liners before the war. Fares were similarly fixed by cartel and competition took the form, among other things, of gargantuan and elaborate menus. Rough weather, however, allowed steamship companies to economise on the amount of food actually consumed.

Yours faithfully,
C. M. LLOYD JONES,
5 Kensington Gardens,
Hale, Cheshire.

Education standards

From Mr Joseph N. Hill

Sir, Your leading article (August 21) in response to the pleas of Sir Claus Moser for more resources for the educational system of the country is somewhat disingenuous. It really will not do to go on blaming the educational establishment for the ills of the education system.

During the summer holidays, in response to the promptings of Messrs Baker and MacGregor, I spent a week becoming acquainted with the workings of commerce in general and of Save & Prosper in particular.

The palatial conditions in which employees of Save & Prosper work at their Romford headquarters made me think sadly of the gritty working conditions I have met in six schools over the last 35 years: here were carpets everywhere, decent furniture, fully-stocked toilets, consideration clearly given to the environment in which staff were expected to work. Your teacher readers will no doubt not recognise their workplace in that description.

Further, I read in the "Graduate Opportunities" booklet a list of staff benefits: mortgage subsidy, non-contributory pension scheme, free health insurance for staff members and their immediate family, free life assurance, SAYE share option scheme, interest-free loan facilities, profit-sharing

scheme, paid overtime, 35-hour week, flexitime, subsidised restaurant, sports and social club. Which LEA can you think of that will match that package?

Yours faithfully,
JOSEPH N. HILL (First Deputy),
Westridge High School,
Redbridge Lane West,
Wanstead, E11,
August 21.

Lawyers' efficiency

From the Chairman of the Legal Aid Practitioners Group

Sir, Your editorial, "A surfeit of lawyers" (August 16), suffers gravely from the sin of omission. Invariably, if silks are used, the Legal Aid Board has to be persuaded that they are needed, and legal aid orders and certificates can themselves limit the number of representatives a client is entitled to. The board makes ample use of its discretion, rest assured.

However in heavy cases, it would be useless to leave the client with just one representative, since the advocate cannot be conducting the case, taking notes, and finding the papers needed to advance his client's case. Even in the much-vaunted single profession countries, advocates rarely attend court without an assistant.

The quicker solicitor-advocates can appear in the higher courts, the better.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID LAWTON, Chairman,
Legal Aid Practitioners Group,
101 Chesterton Road,
Cambridge.

Letters to the Editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number — (071) 782 5046.

Changing Face

Pumping out the water music

DAVID MOSEY



In the early days after the passing of the 1947 Town and Country Planning Act, the listing of a building deemed to be of historic or architectural interest was often seen as an end in itself. Once a building had been given statutory protection everyone could relax, knowing that the demolition men had been thwarted.

But that was, and is, a simplistic view. Unless a building is classed as an ancient monument, which usually means a picturesque ruin, some sort of new use must be found for it.

A discotheque and nightclub might not seem the most desirable new use for a once handsome Victorian building on a tranquil riverside site on the outer fringes of London. In the case of the derelict Enfield pumping station, however, even those who would not from choice go near a discotheque may be pleasantly surprised.

The building is on the banks of the river Lea, on the edge of the Lea Valley regional park. It was completed in about 1889 and supplied water to most of London's East End.

John Gillies, of Henderson Gillies, the architects responsible for the conversion, says the building was probably designed by Metropolitan Water Board engineers following the guidelines of the Arts and Crafts movement. The movement was established by a number of leading Victorian designers, led by William Morris, to improve, among other things, the standards of public architecture.

The movement's success is visible in a whole range of industrial buildings, including this particular pump house. Listed grade 2, it displays a wealth of fine craftsmanship, notably a superb paneled ceiling. The ornate brickwork is also remarkable in a building which, considering the purpose for which it was constructed, possesses an almost ecclesiastical grandeur.

The station was bought last year from the then Thames Water Authority for £700,000 by Stephen Webb, chairman of Premier Leisure, an entertainment group based in Dartford, Kent. The company also owns a nightclub, public house and restaurant in Dartford and a public house/restaurant in Southend, Essex.

Mr Webb, a qualified surveyor, describes himself as a conservationist with a strong interest in historic buildings. "We are determined to get it right," he says. "We have the expertise, experience and the finance to translate this determination into practice."

"Discotheques in town centres cause problems, and we have been looking at various sites on the edge of London. This one seemed to meet our needs perfectly."

On a site adjoining the pumping station, formerly occupied by a boiler room and coal yard, an extension is being built for use as a



Planning for a new lease of life: the almost ecclesiastical grandeur of the disused Enfield pumping station will soon be busy with nightclubbers

public house and restaurant. This is intended to complement its historic neighbour and, advised by English Heritage, the company has scoured the country for matching original tiles. New Fletton bricks have had to be used for the walls, but their bright pink complexion will be darkened by a mixture of soot and water to give the appearance of natural weathering. The

new rooms in the original building are being constructed around a steel framework which will avoid drilling into the outside walls and will allow them to be dismantled and removed, if necessary. Most of the building materials for the venture, due to open next year, have been brought to the site by barge along the nearby canal to avoid traffic disruption.

Despite a nearby overhead dual carriageway, the six-acre site has a rustic tranquillity. The tree-lined river winds through what may be the last remaining watermeadows in London, which are to be managed as a nature reserve by the London Wildlife Trust.

As part of the £3.7 million scheme, the river and canal will be dredged and cleaned, and Mr

Webb plans to build a small boatyard. He also hopes to buy a couple of narrowboats, to be renovated by students from the local polytechnic and loaned to artists for use as studios. Other plans include an outdoor classroom on the edge of the watermeadows.

JOHN YOUNG

Playing the game can win friends

Playing bridge unites all types of people in a common quest for that perfect hand of cards

CHESS may make you mad, but bridge players consider themselves only mildly obsessive — a group of women from Brockham, in Surrey, recently declined to attend the funeral of one of their number because it coincided with their regular afternoon's bridge. Taxed on this apparent insouciance towards an old friend, they announced, with some dignity, that they would be playing a silent rubber as a mark of respect. This was what their former playing partner would have wanted.

Not every pensionable bridge player would take a similar attitude, but ask any 70-year-old bridge-playing widow, and you will get much the same answer. "I don't know what I would do without it," is a common response. "It keeps me alive," is another. They are not exaggerating. You have only to step into a room of bridge players of a certain age to realise that you are interrupting the equivalent of a seance, or an act of religious worship.

All over Britain, groups of old people, predominantly widows, take it in turns to cook meals for each other, ferry each other from house to house, and play bridge, afternoons and evenings, day after day. Their diaries are full for months ahead. Then there are the holidays, and woe betide the fifth person who does not play bridge. I caught up with a group of bridge players spending a week with Saga Holidays at the Moat House Hotel in Bourne, Lincolnshire. An eclectic mix of grand old ladies, men and women with regional accents and very different dress styles, this 36-strong group are united by love of the game. "It's a great leveller," says Phyllis Hummerstone, one of the group at the hotel.

Bridge can also accommodate all sorts of physical handicaps, including deafness. Two of the company have the use of only one hand and play with card-racks. Several of them are approaching or are even over 90 years old.

"I play twice a day, at the golf club in the afternoon, then socially in the evening," says Margaret Taylor, another group member, who sports a splendid suntan and a large pair of spectacles on strings. She and her three companions from the Rhiwbina Bridge Club, near Cardiff, went on similar holidays four times last year.

No money changes hands at home they might play for 1p per 100, so you can win or lose no more than 50p in a session, but £1 Boots vouchers are awarded to the winners of the more complicated evening duplicate sessions. Duplicate bridge involves everyone playing the same hands in rotation, minimising the element of luck.

The majority come in groups of two or more and play regularly together. But there are singles as well, and it is the task of the

"directors", in this case Ralph Tipler, a retired headmaster, and his wife, Mary, to find them partners and to monitor their progress.

Mikel Gissing is one of the singles. Partially paralysed by a stroke nine years ago, he arranges his cards on a rack he made himself from pieces of skirting board. Mikel has played bridge for just three years, but is one of those people to whom a handicap is a challenge. In this company he is an outstanding competitor. He spends at least £5,000 a year on bridge holidays. Margot Kerr, a community midwife who has been playing only since April, has been paired with Audrey Jones, an experienced player to whom bridge is not the be-all and end-all. "I still feel guilty taking time off to play bridge," says Ms Jones. Then, *sotto voce*, she admits why. "I'm a doctor, but I don't want this lot to know that."

Elsie Stephens and May Roberts are regular partners from the Midlands. "We used to go to Droitwich for competitions," says Ms Roberts, who still teaches the game. Among her pupils is a woman of 93. Elsie, who admits to being over 80, is another who has taught friends to play. Now she is sustained by the company of her former pupils. "It was my salvation when my husband died," she says, a sentiment that would be echoed by thousands of people around Britain.

John, "the man from the Pru", took up bridge on his retirement and now plays every evening. He

lives in a warden-controlled block of flats in Derby where he is the only bridge-player among the 36 residents. "They are all goggle-box mad there," he says. Each Friday he can turn the communal lounge into a bridge party for his friends.

Bridge is not just an old people's game. As the London School of Bridge emphasises, many more young people are playing it nowadays. But it is one of those games of which you can truthfully say: "You'll never regret learning it."

I left the Moat House Hotel as the evening session was getting under way. Only the occasional glass of wine had been taken with dinner and there was no drinking or smoking in the bridge room. Bids were being spoken quietly, concentration was absolute. They would probably play till about 11pm, and then a good few might go to the bar. The previous night some had been up until 1am — proof, if proof were needed, that the game keeps you young.

Mr Tipler accompanied me to the front door and observed confidentially: "Lots of people don't know what to do when they come on holiday."

"Look at all those people staring into their half-pints of bitter. Aren't we lucky that we can play bridge?"

RUPERT MORRIS



Bridge the social gap: Ralph and Mary Tipler (centre) with John Cook (left) and William Kent

Events in town

THIS WEEKEND

● **The Casablanca experience:** themed event with fairs, acrobats, Moroccan food. The film starts at 8.30pm. Dress in appropriate costume. Kenwood, Hampstead Lane, London, NW3 (071 479 4444). Today from 6pm, £5-£7.40, child £3.50-£5.

● **Country fair in town:** farm animals, craft market, horsebuffs, donkey rides, children's fairground. College Farm, Fitzalan Road, London, N3. Tomorrow 1-6pm, £1.50, child £1.

● **Osterley Fireworks Classics:** When Symphony Orchestra play Brahms, Borodin, Tchaikovsky and Dvořák. Refreshments, licensed bar. Take chair, rug or cushion. Osterley Park, Isleworth, Middlesex (081 560 3318). Tomorrow 7.30pm, gates open 6pm, £8.50.

● **Storytelling at Kensington Palace:** "I wish I had" — for 5-7 year-olds and parents. Education Centre, Kensington Palace state apartments, Kensington Gardens, London W8 (071 937 9561). Tomorrow 2-4pm, 50p. State apartments, £3.50, child £2.30.

● **City of Nottingham show:** flowers, fruit and vegetables, shire horses, arena events, children's displays, refreshments. Wollaton Park, Nottingham. Tomorrow 10am-5pm.

● **Annual steam weekend:** rally of traction, steam and stationary engines, models, motor cycles, fairground organs. The Boat Museum, Dockyard Road, Ellesmere Port, Cheshire (051 355 5017). Today, tomorrow daytime, small charge.

● **Huddersfield Heritage Fair:** maps, books, postcards and prints, town history, screen-printing demonstration, book-binding advice, folk dancing, mock Viking battles. Huddersfield Town Hall, Huddersfield. Today 10am-4pm, free.

● **Historic Vehicle Rally:** vintage and veteran cars, bicycles and commercial vehicles in the grounds. Also motor museum, children's play and picnic areas. Holker Hall, Carlisle-Cartmel, Grange-over-Sands, Cumbria

(05395 58328). Tomorrow, 10am-4.30pm. Small admission charge.

● **Combined Services Weekend:** 2 days of entertainments and activities by the army, navy and air force. The Magical Kingdom of Camelot, Park Hall Road, Charnock Richard, Lancashire (0275 453044). Today, tomorrow 10am-5pm. Admission £8.95, children 4-14 £5.95, toddlers free.

● **Victorian Archery Shoot:** display of traditional round shot by archers in Victorian costumes. Spectators may take part. Springhill, Monmouth, County Londonderry, Northern Ireland (06487 48210). Tomorrow, 3pm, 50p.

NEXT WEEK

● **Oyster and seafood fair:** oysters and seafood, recipes, cookery books, information stand, guest celebrities. Hay's Galleria, Trolley Street, London, SE1. Monday, free.

● **Cromwell Day Service:** annual event organised by the Cromwell Association to pay tribute to the statesman with hymns, the last post, address and revellers. Spectators welcome. Oliver Cromwell's statue, Cromwell Green, London SW1. Monday, 3pm.

● **City of London flower show:** Lord Mayor to open show of flowers, fruit, vegetables, handicrafts, produce — from jams to wine. The Great Hall, Guildhall, Gresham Street, London, EC1. Tuesday 12noon-7pm, Wednesday 9am-12noon, 2-4pm. £1-£1.50.

● **Images of the London blitz:** war artist Leonard Roseman OBE opens exhibition of war photographs by Bill Brandt, But Hardy, George Rodger. Also, audio-visual presentation. Second World War Gallery, Museum of London, London Wall, London, EC2 (071 600 3699). Tuesday until May 1991, free.

● **Great British Quilt Festival:** embroidery exhibition, stalls, demonstrations, classes and workshops. Trinity and All Saints College, Horseshorn, Leeds. (0532 664604). Thursday-Sunday, 10.30am-5pm.

JULY FROSHAUGH

Help: Amanda Docker, dried flower arranger

Dried off and decked out

JAMES HARRISON

AMANDA Docker began her business in 1979 in a small way, selling dried flower arrangements to local hotels. Her husband, Fred, a food industry consultant, provided the financial acumen and Mrs Docker the imagination that made her product different from the desiccated offerings of others.

Armscote Manor Dried Flowers thrived, becoming one of the leading companies of its kind in the world, selling its arrangements around Britain through gift shops and retail chains, and finding a market in Macy's in New York and the Port Stanley gift shop in the Falkland Islands. Mrs Docker knew she should be delighted at how the business had grown, but instead felt unfulfilled. "I missed the personal touch," she says.

The couple began the business to pay for repairs to the roof of their manor house, set in 16 acres of land and walled gardens near Stratford-upon-Avon. The idea was to use home-grown flowers and make the manor self-supporting. But now the business is so big the manor cannot provide enough blooms and they have to be imported from around the world.

Despite her success, Mrs Docker was anxious to get back that satisfying feeling of knowing where her flowers went, and what rooms they were meant for. "I want to try to build up an exclusive interior design service, and start doing weddings and parties," she says.

While working on the photographs for her book, *Armscote Manor Book of Dried Flowers*, she and Simon Lyett, the flower arranger, decked the drawing-rooms, kitchens and garden sheds of her friends' country houses with mossy swags and daisy trees, rustic bunches in buckets, garlanded baskets of dried herbs for kitchens and arrangements of shells and bits of loofah for bathrooms. Garlands were designed for a winter wedding, and a



Crisply floral: Amanda Docker and a basket of flowers

church was festooned with warm-looking dried flowers, although Mrs Docker acknowledges there is insensitive resistance to dried flowers at a wedding.

Following the enthusiasm with which her efforts and the book were received, Mrs Docker determined to make this service available to all.

"You can do some lovely things, such as using dried flowers as curtain tie-backs with material worked into them, or twined around mirrors, or on top of kitchen containers and pasta jars. And you can hang swags and garlands on walls and over mirrors," she says.

"It would be a bit over the top to have them everywhere, but pelmets of dried flowers are lovely, and filling in the dusty gaps at the tops of cabinets, as we have done in our drawing-room, is a nice idea."

Formal arrangements are definitely *passé*, she tells clients. Natural shapes and bold colours are fashionable, as are simple ideas such as a twisted wheat sheaf tied with a paper bow.

Consultations are free within a reasonable distance, and potential clients do not have to live in

stately homes. "We would do quite ordinary houses, maybe a single room, or perhaps something for a special party," she says. If this side of the business takes off, she might hire out some of the large dried flower trees which she makes for charity events.

She also makes Christmas trees: pungent dried yew and spruce and dark green kumera woven with pinecones and dried ribbons. They come in all sizes, from testable miniatures to large enough to substitute for the real thing. Christmas greenery might include wreaths and garlands with nuts and fresh fruits, or dried "orange" trees with real oranges.

Dried flowers are sold individually or arranged at the manor shop. "I'm sure now it was an advantage not to have been formally trained," Mrs Docker says. "If you don't know the rules of dried flower arranging, you have no inhibitions about breaking them."

VICTORIA MCKEE

● **Armscote Manor Dried Flowers:** Armscote, near Stratford-upon-Avon, Warwickshire (0688 82681). Armscote Manor Book of Dried Flowers (Century Hutchinson, £16.95).

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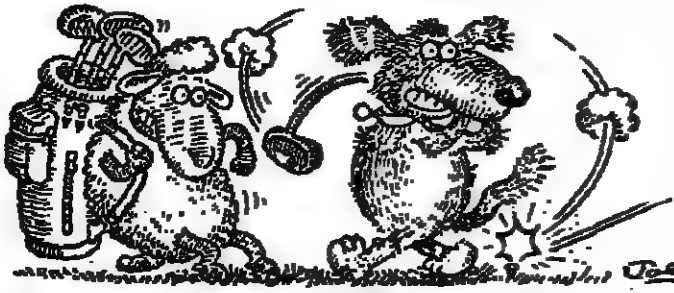
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WEEKEND LIVING: OUT OF TOWN

Farmers' diary: Paul Heiney

Swooping success of Flash cordon



"Come by!" He stormed to the left, keeping far enough from the sheep to not cause any panic. Slowly they edged together as he moved up on them. Another command had him falling to the ground, frozen until yet another brought him on to his feet. He was a cracking dog, as Phil Drabble might say. Money changed hands (quite a lot of it, as a trained dog is a valuable animal) and with a hint of reluctance, Flash slid into my car and we made our way home.

That was last Saturday. It was Wednesday before I got anywhere near him again. I tried the soft approach, with lots of cooing and good boy, good boy, but the bewildered Flash just snuck into the corner of his kennel, bared his teeth, snarled, and refused to budge. I can't blame him. For all he knew, I might have been a golf course developer.

who is anybody's for a cuddle and a Bonio biscuit, and put her in with Flash. The change was dramatic. It was as if an imprisoned man found his jail had been turned into a harem. Now I could boldly venture into the kennel for a pat and a cuddle of Tess - and within a day Flash was wanting attention, too. By Friday he was licking my hand. I call that progress.

I have to confess that I have been down this path before. Six years ago, for the television series *In at the Deep End*, I was given a dog and instructed in the art of sheep dog training. The dog, called Tim and led a frustrated few months, for in those days I had no sheep. The poor dog had to be content with rounding up the only things that happened to be moving in our garden, which were black rubbish sacks drifting in the wind. By talking to shepherds, I learnt that sheepdogs live hard lives, by

pet dog standards. They rarely live in houses. It was the proud boast of Flash's owner that he had "never been in a house, never". This was a selling point. Nor do they seem to expect much in return for a hard day's work: a pat and an affectionate "good dog" is worth more to them than a gold medal at Crufts. But if you have seen, as I have, the dedication and the instinctive skill of dogs working sheep on the wild mountains of Scotland and the rugged hill farms of Wales, you cannot fail to be of the opinion that one good working dog is worth all the pampered poodles in the world.

As I looked at Flash, hoping that he and I would forge that unique bond that exists between shepherd and sheep dog, my mind recalled the lessons of years ago: "Come by!" to send him to the left, "Awwwa...y" to move him to the right, "Look back!" if he had left any sheep behind. His ears pricked up, his head leaned to one side and I saw in his eyes a look of willingness, and I fondly thought, a hint of devotion.

Then, for a joke, I said to Flash: "Golf course?" He snarled. I think we are going to get on just fine.

Breeding

Time to get your goats



Cashmere: pretty and small

CASHMERE is comfortable to wear and fun to grow, says Judy Allison of Hereford, the owner of one of the largest herds of Silverado Cashmires outside Scotland.

This is a good time to get your goats: September is the start of the breeding season. The British Cashmere Goat Society will have a stand at Goat '90 on September 29 and 30 at Stoneleigh, Warwickshire, where, for the price of a cashmere sweater, you can acquire a buck and doe.

Cashmere goats have two coats, a long thick one and a downy coat underneath. Fleece samples are sent to New Zealand to be tested for yield, weight and fibre diameters. Silverado Cashmires are bred for high down weights and good fibre diameters.

Ms Allison's stock originated at leading Australian studs, from where they were exported to New Zealand in 1985. Two years later, frozen embryos were implanted into recipients in Britain. Every strand of available Silverado fleece, bred for whiteness to facilitate dyeing, is sought by the Scottish Cashmere Producers' Association pool.

Ms Allison's pride is Silverado Pinto, whose first shear downweight as an eight-month-old buck, was more than 400 grams. "Normally you'd be very pleased with 200 grams," Cashmires obligingly moult in the spring. "It all falls out like a carpet."

Ms Allison sells Silverado Cashmires as kids from around £60 for buck and £150 for does. Older animals range from £150 and £200 up.

Electric fences are needed, since the goats eat trees and shrubs, but their browsing makes for good pasture management as they devour nettles and weeds, leaving the good grass and clover. They will often eat straw in preference to hay.

Cashmere goats need rudimentary shelter, but they are hardy and receive a food supplement of sheep concentrate from Ms Allison only during special breeding programmes. Their hooves need trimming every two to three months, when it is also advisable to drench the goats against worms.

Cashmere goats, smaller and prettier than dairy goats, make good pets because of their amiable temperaments.

SANDY BISP

● Judy Allison, 2 Park Cottage, Dinmore Manor, Hereford, HR4 9EB (0432 71296). Mrs Hazel Pook, the secretary, the British Cashmere Goat Society, Amblebury, Orkney, Hexham, Northumberland NE46 1SY (0434 673280).

Novel view of a Scottish hideaway

Home from home: Barbara Cartland

Barbara Cartland calls her Highland hideaway a "proper sporting lodge". It is five miles up the Strath of Kildonan from the Sutherland town of Helmsdale. Other people might call Kildonan Lodge a bungalow. This is not a description which finds favour with Miss Cartland.

She has decamped to the Strath of Kildonan, 600 miles from her Hertfordshire home, Camfield Place, almost every summer since 1927, the year she was whisked north by her first husband, Alexander McCordquale, to visit his Uncle Harold at Saluscraggie, just down the Strath. That marriage was "not successful" she recalls, but she married his first cousin, Hugh, and thus kept the name McCordquale, and a place in Scotland for the annual family migration to fish 20 miles of the Helmsdale and clamber over 13,000 acres of hideously steep hills in pursuit of grouse and stags.

"Well, it is my second home, don't you see? I've been coming here for 63 years, after all, and of course we lived here with the boys for part of the war, and I absolutely love it, and the boys love it and, of course, I've used all this lovely countryside as settings for my novels, especially *Dunrobin Castle*, which is my favourite."

The McCordquales bought old Saluscraggie at the turn of the century. "It was absolutely enormous, you know; terribly grand, with an enormous dining-room and study and everything, and a butler and two footmen and servants, and, you know, it was so enormous that when the family decided to demolish it after the war, the staircase was sold for £5,000. Can you imagine? £5,000 in those days."

The McCordquales moved up-

river into Kildonan Lodge, from which they sorted to the hills and the river every year until 1984 when the lodge was burnt to the ground at Hogmanay. Miss Cartland is under no illusions why. "They decided to burn out the absentee landlords up the river, and we were the first ones."

The new lodge was finished in 1985, on the site of the old one. "The fire was rather a blessing in disguise; all that dark wood and bathrooms miles away. What you want is lots of rooms; loos and bathrooms and lots of hot water, and there's this lovely kitchen with everything you could want and Nigel [her chef] makes all these delicious things for tea and he's terribly good at meringues."

The lodge, a rough-cast L-shape with aluminium-framed double glazed doors, is centrally heated and comfortable. Consequently, Miss Cartland, aged 89, makes no concessions to the Highland weather, welcoming guests in flustering layers of turquoise organza.

Kildonan is owned by three strands of the McCordquale family, who appear throughout the year for whatever is on the sporting menu. The décor, by Lady Sarah McCordquale, sister of the Princess of Wales, is what used to be called "Peter Jonesy" - a mix of white walls, paintings by family and friends, flowers and sporting prints and sensible loose covers with enough pattern to disguise coffee stains, cigarette burns and elbowed drams, although she may be regretting the choice of a pale carpet.

The drawing-room looks down the Strath, a view which even the North of Scotland Hydro Electric Board has been unable to ruin with half a dozen pylons. The dining-room, with views of the hill across the Helmsdale and the



Inspiration: Miss Cartland says of the lodge: "I absolutely love it, the boys love it, and I've used all this lovely countryside as settings for my novels"

occasional Scottish Sprinter from Wick to Inverness, seats ten in comfort, 14 at a push.

Miss Cartland has come to Kildonan this year with her eldest son, Ian, his family and friends, Nigel the chef and Ron the chauffeur. She is looked after, as every year, by Annie from Helmsdale, whose husband provides her with fresh fish. "Marvelous lobsters last night; white fish tonight," Miss Cartland enthuses.

Like all women whose menfolk insist on sporting holidays in the north of Scotland, Miss Cartland's role is that of *chef de commissariat* and that is how she likes it. "Well, you see, what men want here is lots of sport and food. They walk all day, far enough to kill any normal person, all the way across a hill and then turn right and come back again and, don't you see,

what they want is hot baths and lots of good food." What she calls "a sporting lunch" may consist of salmon fishcakes, cold meat (especially tongue) wrapped in lettuce with beetroot and grated carrots. But no sporting lunch of Miss Cartland's is complete without her *specialité de la montagne* - the bacon-and-egg bap.

In a day past, Miss Cartland would take to the hills herself, latterly on a rather bedtempered pony which tended to throw her. She disapproves of women stalking and shooting, but has no reservations about women fishing. She caught her first salmon, of 14lb, on her first visit to Kildonan. These days her sporting expeditions are confined to delivering lunch to those who are fishing at the top of the river, whether she is conveyed by Ian

the white Mercedes with Mai Mai the Pekinese on her lap.

Alternatively, there are calls to be made in Helmsdale, a port built by the Dukes of Sutherland. No Cartland visit there is complete without looking in on Timespan, the local heritage centre which includes the Barbara Cartland Room, a mocked-up drawing-room complete with a bouffant-haired model of herself aged 18, in a pink sequined evening dress. On this particular afternoon the shooting and fishing parties arrive back for tea just in time to see Nigel the chef and Ron the chauffeur clearing it all away. It is reinstated, and dispensed by Miss Cartland with the speed of the WRVS in the Blitz.

That evening, after supper, will be the awarding of the Kildonan sporting trophies by Ian

McCordquale, resplendent in a tartan Miss Cartland had paid £19 to the Lord Lyon King at Arms to have taken out of abeyance. "Well, you see, whoever's done frightfully well, caught the most fish or shot well, is given the sportsman's cup of the day, and whoever has done rather badly, got into terrible trouble with their dog or done something silly, gets the sod of the day cup. I'm not sure you should put that in the paper. Oh, well..."

The day had been good. The men were happy with 34 brace, the anglers were happy with 15 fish, and Miss Cartland was happy because that was the way it should always be at Kildonan.

ALASTAIR ROBERTSON
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Feather report

Sipping beer, eyeing birds

I DO NOT know quite how to put this. It really is embarrassing. But you see, I have just seen a rare bird. I was told it was at Hayle estuary in Cornwall; I went to Hayle estuary, somebody showed me where it was; I looked through my binoculars and saw it.

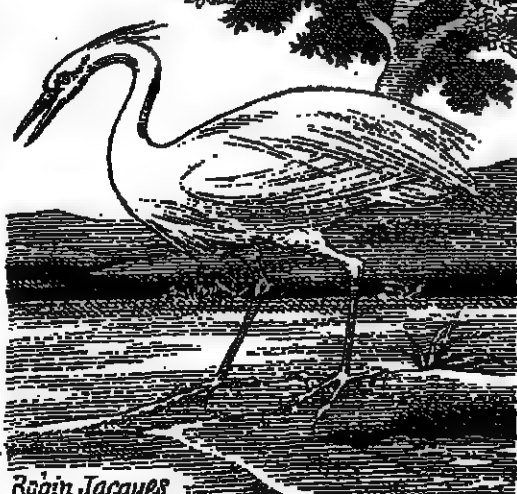
The bird was lovely, so it was not quite the empty experience it sounds. It was a little egret, a small and delicate white heron with garish yellow feet. The feet are diagnostic by their feet ye shall know them.

A pair of little egret have been hanging about Hayle estuary for a couple of months and at the beginning of the week they were still there. A Wilson's phalarope has just dropped in, and that brought in the twitchers. I am embarrassed by rare birds. Not just because the conservation side of things is what matters, it is also that, so far as the pure shikari side of birding goes, chance-found birds are far more satisfying. Set-piece birding is still very enjoyable: you go to a birdy place, a reserve or a reservoir or whatever, and you probably meet birders and exchange the traditional greeting: "Much about?" However, birding should not just be a special occasion, it should be part of everyday life.

Back to Cornwall, and a favourite walk of mine along the coast path from Rinsay to Porthleven, not at this time of year, a brilliant walk for birds. An important rule of life is to carry binoculars everywhere. I had some nice views of a lot of common birds: stonechat, buzzard, oystercatcher, fulmar, kestrel, linnet, a pair of wheatear. But the biggest treat was a couple of merlin, a small falcon that practically all the field guides describe as "dashing". Without

binoculars, it would have been "well, I suppose it was really a kestrel, but it does not look like one." With them, the shape, odder dumper than the bigger falcons, was perfectly plain, there was no other diagnosis, and there were the two birds, swooping and dashing all over the place, birds to reveal in.

I take binoculars with me when I have a beer in the garden, just to enjoy the common birds: birding is a part of daily life. In May, the



Robin Jacques

high season, the song birds go through their territorial routine, singing their heads off. It is a joy to sip a beer and keep an eye on them, as good as any rare bird. In Africa, I take binoculars to meals, which is not overdoing it at all. I would have missed that at a Test match in Barbados I alarmed the entire press corps with my delight in an osprey.

There is a special pleasure in such casually encountered birds. I remember walking to the station from where I live in Hertfordshire, within the ring of the M25. It was autumn, and the house martins were circling around, trying to work out which way Africa is. I

cast a benevolent eye over them and, as I was doing so, I saw something like the wrath of God. A demon shaped like an anchor or the letter *pi* dropped from heaven, plucked a martin from the air, and vanished from sight. It took about 0.75 seconds. Hobby. Another falcon. Another memorable sighting, another aspect of birds as part of everyday life. This brings me back to my embarrassing egret at Hayle. Hayle really is a marvellous place for birds. It is nationally important for curlew, teal and wigeon. There were 200 or so curlew last week, as magnificent as any egret. Hayle attracts important birds in big numbers, and spices this with many rare birds. The warden, Dave Plumm, has seen all five British grebes at once (great crested, little, red-necked, black-necked and Slavonian). However, far more exciting than the egrets was the knowledge that Hayle, which had looked like going under to developers, now looks like being saved. Peter de Savary, the America's Cup man, is the developer.

Long consultations with the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds seem to have guaranteed the future of this special place. It might even be improved. Mr de Savary has undertaken to reintroduce the sluicing of the harbour. Without this, the place would silt up and be useless for birds within 20 years. All in all, this is that rare and splendid thing, a happy conservation story, one that reflects credit on developer and conservationists.

I still feel dreadfully uncomfortable about those egret, but at least I missed the Wilson's phalarope. Thank the Lord for that.

SIMON BARNES

Country events

THIS WEEKEND

- Chertworth country fair and British pipe band championships: Two-day event with all country pursuits and sports, plus military bands, jousting, flying demonstrations with birds of prey, hot air balloons. Today only, 100 pipe bands in competition. Chertworth, Bakewell, Derbyshire. Today, tomorrow 9.15am-6pm, £5, accompanied child under 14 free.
- Burying hog fair: Flying display, young gymnasts, arena events, hog roast. Town centre and streets of Burying, Suffolk. Today noon-8pm, tomorrow noon-6pm. Today, £1.50, child £1. Tomorrow, £2, child £1.50.
- Cookham regatta: Eighty river races, vintage and Dunlop boats, aerobics and dog displays. Marsh Meadow, Cookham, Berkshire. Today 10am-6pm, £2.50, child £1.50.
- Riddlesden remembrance: Elizabethan music and dance displays, period children's games, craft demonstrations. East Riddlesden Hall, Bradford Road, Kettleby, West Yorkshire (0535 607075). Tomorrow noon-5pm, £1.80, child 90p.
- Southwest of England town Crier's championships: Heats today at the Water Garden; grand parade and finals tomorrow at the Hotel Victoria. Newquay, Cornwall. Today, tomorrow from 2.30pm, free.
- RAF show: Today, Falcons free-fall parachute team, Red Arrows. Tomorrow, a Spitfire fly-past, police dog demonstrations. Both days, static displays and flight simulator. Western Lawns, Eastbourne. Today, tomorrow mid-morning to late afternoon.
- Firework spectacular: Pyrotechnics and fringe entertainers. The Vyne, Sharncliffe St John, Hampshire (0256 881337). Today 8pm, £8, child £3.
- Toddy bass' picnic: Minstrels, jugglers and hog roast. Trevelick Garden, Fockney, Truro, Cornwall (0872 862030). Tomorrow 2.30pm.
- A's Wolf that Ends Walk: Theatre Set Up's touring outdoor

production. Take rug. Scone Castle Garden, Lamburnurst, Kent. Today 2pm and 7.30pm, £3.50-£5.50.

● Late summer steamday: Visit the engine shed, see the locomotives, ride trains. Didcot Railway Centre, Oxfordshire (0225 817200). Tomorrow 11am-5pm, £3, child £2.20, under-12s must be accompanied by an adult.

NEXT WEEK

- Festival of British light horse breeding and the Ford national hunter show: Six hundred entries in the hunter show on Monday, followed by sale of young horses. Three Counties Society Showground, Malmesbury, Wilt. Tues, led and ridden horses; Wed, ridden horses all breeds; Thurs, young horses all breeds.
- Tapestry talk: Connoisseurs afternoon with expert Sally Rutherford. Angleside Abbey, Lode, Cambridgeshire (0223 811200). Tues 2-4pm, £9.50 including cream tea.
- Scarborough gala concert season: Four 150th anniversary concerts with music by Sullivan, Lehar, Novello, Coward, Hammerstein, Lloyd Webber. Spa Grand Hall, South Bay, Scarborough. This Wed and following Weds in September, 7.45pm. Booking and further information 0723 378774.
- Open-air operetta: Gilbert and Sullivan's HMS Pinafore. Take picnic, chair or rug. Colston Fishacre Garden, Colston, Kingswear, Devon (080425 466). Thurs, Fri, Sat. Garden open from 7pm, performances 7.45pm, £6 in advance, £8 on the night.
- Burying Remy Martin horse trials: Thursday and Friday dressage, Friday cross-country, Saturday showjumping and speed and endurance, Sunday showjumping. Burying Remy Park, Stamford, Lincolnshire. Thurs-Fri £7 per car, Sat £18, Sun £28, pedestrians Thurs-Fri £2, Sat £4, Sun £3; under-12s half price.
- Farnborough air show: Biggest aerospace exhibition and flying display in the world. Farnborough, Hampshire. Fri-Sun 9.30am-6.30pm, £11, child £3.
- A's Wolf that Ends Walk: Theatre Set Up's touring outdoor

JUDY FROSHAUG

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Assets

Her first show took place recently in London. She is planning

NICOLE SWENGLEY



stationary, bed linen and baskets. The basement is being developed as a gallery-style area for paintings, furniture and

Fios and Arteluce feature predominantly but the shop also imports an exclusive selection from Sergio Terzani. One of three

[illegible]

can be cut up to 5m wide and seamless. The British company, Merino, also supplies carpets to Trend in any colour and weave to a given width. Lighting from Flos, O'Loce, Artemide and Artec.

HILON MALLALIEU



Probably the only professional basket maker in Britain to have



"They wanted baskets to use to drain teat tubes," she explains. "Plastic was no good because they are put in an oven to dry." Basket making, happily side by side with science, is probably the oldest craft of all, taking precedence even over pottery, Mrs Goymer maintains. "After all, the very first pots had to be held in place while they were fired: the twigs around them would have just burnt away."

SANDY BISP

● Mrs Goymer is the co-author, with Sue Gabriel, of a book, *The Complete Book of Basketry Techniques*, to be published by David and Charles after Christmas. This week she will be teaching at a Buckinghamshire course organised by the Basket Makers' Association, and on every first and third Saturday in the month Mrs Goymer is available at the Cirencester Crafts Market. More information is available from 0243 510724, or from the secretary of the Basket Makers' Association on 0261 891340.

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I Pretended ON WITH THE MOTLEY,
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FUNDING

Behind every genius . . .

Private patronage of the arts has a long history and perhaps an equally important future, argues Richard Morrison. Below, four present-day patrons explain their motivations

If there is no such thing as a free lunch, there may also be no such thing as a free artist. The history of Western culture could easily be written entirely in terms of "free lunches", if that phrase is taken to mean the private patronage that has given painters, writers, composers and performers access to such unartistic necessities as food, clothes and a roof over their heads.

Private patronage pre-dates state subsidy by many centuries, though in the case of the Renaissance princes who employed vast artistic retinues, it is hard to define where private wealth stopped and state subsidy began. Artists have, on the whole, not acted entirely admirably in their dealings with patrons. Some have been merely incredulous at how easily a rich, stage-struck fool and his money are parted. As Irving Berlin famously put it:

*Angels come from everywhere with lots of jack
And when you lose it, there's no attack.
Where could you get money that you don't
give back?*

Others have exploited infatuated patrons with unscrupulous ruthlessness. Wagner financed a lavish life style, as well as his grandiose operatic plans, from the purses of rich, awe-struck men and women — one of them the King of Bavaria. His idea of showing gratitude might then be to run off with his patron's wife.

Why do patrons give money to these often difficult, ungracious artists? Power and status are important considerations. Prince Esterházy's standing in the Hapsburg empire was bolstered because he "owned" Haydn, the most

famous composer in 18th-century Europe. Financing a particular artistic project may also send a signal to the patron's peers and rivals: it is a public statement of the patron's philosophy and taste. The Texan electronics billionaire Ross Perot donated \$12 million towards Dallas's new concert hall, on condition that it was named not after him, but after his junior partner: "to send a message to corporate America that people who get to where I am often do so on the backs of their colleagues."

In some famous instances, artistic patronage undoubtedly carried a whiff of sublimated sexual urge. Nadezhda von Meck's infatuation with young composers proved lucrative for Tchaikovsky; less well known is the fact that the lady later employed Debussy in her own private, travelling piano trio.

More often, however, the motivation lies in the acquisition of reflected glory. The urge to achieve a kind of immortality — to leave a permanent trace of one's presence in the world — is no less strong in non-artists than in artists. A person may not have the creative force within himself to fashion a lasting masterpiece, but wealth can purchase a seat very near the centre of the creative process. Hunches can be backed; great careers can be watched with a sense of proprietorial pride.

In Britain the private patron has been a shadowy figure, despite the enormous contributions to London's cultural life from individuals and trusts bearing such names as Getty, Sainsbury and Lyons. The patron is regarded as peripheral to the central thrust of arts subsidy which, since 1945, has been

perceived as the duty of corporate bodies: the state, the BBC, big business. The American experience is different. Private patrons are the crucial prop that supports all serious arts, the more so since the National Endowment for the Arts has come under attack.

But last year Peter Palumbo, the Arts Council chairman, appealed to British individuals who had done well out of the Thatcher decade to "give something back" to the community by backing arts organisations. Was this a naive plea from a man who believes that other rich individuals should be as tirelessly enthusiastic about the arts as he is? Or was it a realistic appraisal of a considerable source of potential revenue, waiting for any arts organisation with the gumption to knock on the doors of the right castles and mansions?

The Times asked four individuals who already plough considerable sums into the arts about their motivation. Unsurprisingly, none mentioned the "paying a debt to society" aspect. Rather, the modern arts patron emerges as a fierce individualist, fanatical about one or more art-forms, happiest when backing a talent on whom or instinct, untrammelled by having to be accountable to any committee or board.

Whereas in America individuals often make donations on a community basis, "clubbing together" on gigantic projects, British patronage is more random, more eccentric, less predictable and much less malleable. These are not individuals, generally, who would meekly consent to plug the holes left between state and corporate funding. They usually want to do it their way.



His entry into arts funding two years ago could be interpreted as a whim. "I phoned up London Contemporary Dance Theatre one day, and said: 'Do you need any money, any help?' I'm impulsive by nature. If something captures my imagination, I say go ahead."

Dance captured the imagination of Katz, a 42-year-old London art dealer who specialises in sculpture, when he saw a performance in 1969 of Robert Cohan's *Cell*, which "moved me to tears." In 1970, he started intensive dance training at the London Contemporary Dance School but he was too old — and, he admits, too impatient — to become a professional dancer. Instead, he became an angel both to LCDT and Arc Dance Company, a small independent troupe run by the choreographer Kim Brandstrup.

Katz's initial foray into dance sponsorship put £25,000 into *Crescendo*, one of Cohan's last works as artistic director of LCDT. Since then, Katz has given the company a further £25,000 for new works. He also put £10,000 into Arc's production of *Peer Gynt* earlier this year and is spending another £25,000 to sponsor a new Brandstrup work.

For Katz, who left school at 14 to work in a bowling alley, "the thrill of sponsorship in contemporary dance is really the first thing, bringing my guests, enjoying the dance, talking to the dancers and having a superb party afterwards." Yet he is disappointed with the short life of a contemporary dance work. "It seems a lot of money for just four nights. I gave £60,000 to the National Gallery to have a room redecorated and rehung; that's going to be there forever."

"I'd like to see greater tax incentives, but you also have to make people feel important, give them a dinner party, put up a plaque to them."

Katz believes in the power of art to heal the wounds in society. "It would be nice somehow to get the legions of the world educated in the arts. If you spend time looking at the Old Masters in the National Gallery, it's so serene, so quiet, you don't feel like going out and smashing up an old lady."

DEBRA CRAINE



Does he think Palumbo is being realistic in asking for more patrons to come forward? "Well, Peter Palumbo is a very Anglo-American person. In America, individual arts patronage is a big tax break; that is not yet the case in Britain."

"There are few people who would give to the arts large sums systematically. But one of the reasons why rich people do not donate money is that they are not asked. Many cultural institutions are staffed by socialists. A socialist museum director thinks that funding is the government's responsibility, and does not approve of having candlelit suppers with rich people in order to ask for money. Therefore he doesn't get it. I enjoy being courted."

RICHARD MORRISON

are not giving their best. I make detailed notes when they audition and send the notes to them."

The Foundation offers post-graduate singing scholarships to the London Opera Centre and to the Royal Northern College of Music. Moore's is now planning to send young British singers abroad for six months. "I'm already paying for this young tenor from Lancashire to spend three weeks in Italy with his tent. I thought it was daft; there he was, singing to me in Italian, and he'd never set a foot in the bloody country."

Moore's other prized project is financing recordings of opera sung in English, which EMI produces. "I back things which people ought to know about. I didn't like Wagner when I was young, but Reginald Goodall shone a light on

it for me, so I thought others should know about Goodall." The English National Opera version of Wagner's *Ring* cycle, sung in English and conducted by Goodall, was Moore's first large recording undertaking; now he has put money into 14 opera recordings in 13 years. "EMI looks at its projects from the angle of its catalogue. I select them on the basis of what I would like to hear sung in English. Then there's a scrum in the middle."

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PETER MOORES

Son of the founder of Littlewoods, and himself a former chairman of the giant company, Peter Moore admits that he founded the Peter Moore Foundation in 1964 "as a tax dodge in the days of high taxation." Some tax dodges, in 19 years up to 1989 the Foundation will have given £1.44 million to the arts.

The bulk has gone to opera, about which Moore is fanatical, and in particular to supporting young artists. "I started that because I read that the reason Kirsten Flagstad was so great was that she had a rich husband, and did not have to sing any role for which she was not ready."

In the early days Moore, who worked backstage at Glyndebourne and then in Austrian and Italian opera houses, supported Joan Sutherland, Sir Geraint Evans and the conductor Sir Colin Davis when they were unknown. "I met Colin Davis when he was playing clarinet in the stage band at Glyndebourne, and I was the transport officer."

Does he take pleasure in following the illustrious careers of singers he supported initially? "That question misses the point. I'm not doing it to get a kick out of it. Joan Sutherland would have been a great success without me anyway. Of course one gets emotionally involved with people's careers: when Geraint Evans retired I stood in the stalls of Covent Garden and cried. But I try to guide young singers, and feel they are extremely nasty when I feel they



RICHARD MORRISON

JACQUELINE AND STEWART MCCOLL

Ever since they were teenagers, studying architecture and design in Glasgow and hitchhiking down to theatre performances in Stratford and London, Stewart and Jacqueline McColl have been passionate about the arts. That was 25 years ago. Today, after building up a West End firm of architects and designers, they have invested £1 million in a foundation to sponsor individuals artists in all areas of the arts.

According to Stewart, a 44-year-old architect, the arts are "as important to people as being able to hear, being able to see. I cannot imagine a world without the arts. Obviously it would be a very dull place. And I think if you have a lucky period, you should share that luck. I can think of no better way than to share it with artists who will need luck to succeed."

The McColl Arts Foundation, established as a registered charity in 1989, spends £120,000 a year supporting more than 50 young artists through direct sponsorship, travel bursaries and grants; its current projects include sponsoring *The Glasgow Girls* exhibition at the Glasgow Art Gallery, a touring studio-theatre production (*Monday After the Miracle* by William Gibson), and the young opera singer Susan Kessler.

In November, the foundation will announce the winners of a new scheme to provide bursaries for students and post-graduates of fine arts and design to travel abroad (there are 26 bursaries worth a total of £55,000). McColl

says the scheme came about because he and Jacqueline "can remember how difficult it was as students ourselves to travel and experience other cultures."

Under the terms of the McColl sponsorship, art will generate more art. "We are looking for our students to put into the arts foundation a piece of work — a score, a sculpture, a dance programme — to build up the foundation's own collection." The idea is to sell some of the works and perform others before a paying audience, ploughing the profits back into the foundation. "If we pick our students correctly and hold on to the right works, the



foundation could be very successful in terms of its own art collection."

While believing the government is not doing enough to encourage private support for the arts, McColl wants to see more people involved in sponsorship. He is hoping "to use the foundation as a pumping mechanism for others to invest in the arts as well. By today's standards, we're not very rich and there is a reasonable percentage of people who could well afford to do something similar to what we're doing." He believes that his foundation has an important role in acting as a sponsorship catalyst, because "individual artists do not necessarily have the time or skills to approach businesses for support."

DEBRA CRAINE

Mirrors reveal a cracked mask

THEATRE

After Their Loving Man In The Moon

FLYNNIE, if met at a party, would appear to be a fading good-time girl: brittle, superficial, loud and drunk, pretty if seen in the right light — while her make-up was fresh, and her smiling mask was still held in place. Stephen James has tracked her down to her dressing room, and has invited us to watch, simultaneously, the mask being applied, and the process of disintegration continuing underneath, as she prepares for the conquest of an old dame. It may be an invitation to

sympathise with her predicament, but James is scrupulous in withholding full sympathy until the moment when Flynnie begins to sympathise with herself. Most of the two hours in her company is spent watching a bitter comedy of self-deception.

Victoria Carling's performance is a triumph of modulation, showing the public face as well as the memories, desires, anger and despair which undermine it. Flynnie is married to a husband whose main talent is for making himself scarce even when physically present. Her hopes are centred on Saul, a university acquaintance with whom she once spent several hours on a train.

The rogue elements in her discourse, largely made up of

acerbic cocktail parody, are violent anger directed at quite undeserving objects and strangely touching fragments of childhood memories. James has an acute ear for the ellipses which mark the vital loss. Most striking is Flynnie's braying laugh which, by the end, sounds more like a wretch.

In the slower moving second half, a sadder Flynnie is engaged in therapy, having lost both husband and would-be lover. Her initial attempt to deceive the therapist perhaps rings truer than the eventual opening to self-knowledge, but this is an impressive production, maintaining a high standard in writing, acting and direction, by Jonathan Taffel.

HARRY EYRES

ing rough in the storage room above a temple, or the Little Nun, who brings porridge to Wang and is raped to death by Ah Q.

Least attractive of all is Ah Q — who perhaps represents the petit bourgeois — becoming mysteriously rich during the interval, tempting the Little Nun with a silk negligee and, when she repulses him, remembering how his mother used to slap his face. This may be why he rapes her under the plastic sheeting that covers holes in the temple roof. The temple may represent paradise on earth. Or it may only be an idea. Like anarchy. Or the revolution that breaks out while Ah Q is busy raping.

Wang may possibly represent the intelligentsia. He could be

anybody; they could all be anybody. Who cares who they are, so arbitrary are their changes of fortune and so unexciting their thoughts and feelings?

I am loathe to discourage any company keen to interest English audiences in the plays of unfamiliar foreigners, but Midnight Theatre Company (directors: Rebecca Wolman, responsible for this production, and Derek Wan) have already this summer mounted a baffling Czech play at the Gate.

Far from widening our horizons, such works confirm every suspicion that the drama of *Mittelpuropa* is dull, pretentious and silly.

JEREMY KINGSTON

making their welcome. Hall has the lightest of compositional touches and knows his way around the contours of a perfect pop song, but that did not save the likes of "I Can't Go For That (No Can Do)" and "Maniac" from being cooked up into heavy-duty workouts for the many men behind him.

This may well have been John Oates's influence. All moustache, muscle definition and singlet, he dragged the band through an obscure number from his back catalogue, veering away from Hall's Temptations-inspired blue-eyed soul to something altogether rockier. Hall led them straight back into a tight, understated "Kiss on My List" but this failed to buck the trend of over-vamping

and unbalancing some good tunes. For all the lushness of his voice, and his meshy harmonies with Oates, Hall in his less lyrical moments bears an unflattering resemblance to one Michael Boulton. It is not just the all-American stage presence, as one or two of the less well-known songs sounded about as MTV as pop music gets. But there was a pair of well-placed reminders that the duo's influences are illustrious — "She's Gone", a melodious Motown pastiche, and a competent cover of Marvin Gaye's "What's Going On" to finish. One cannot, after all, take the Hall of Fame out of Hall and Oates.

JASPER REES

PROMS

LPO/Tennstedt Albert Hall

BOTH Alfred Brendel and Klaus Tennstedt have such strong musical personalities that to bring them together in Brahms risked a combustible Prom programme. In the event they achieved such an absorbing account of the D minor Piano Concerto with the London Philharmonic that it should be remembered for a long time by those who heard it.

There were blemishes, however — mostly miscalculations of timing — as a whole the separated piano and orchestra in what should have been a simultaneous chord near the end of the slow movement. But the sense of epic adventure that had been present at the beginning of the concerto was in no way diminished. Indeed, listeners were treated to a depth of almost Mahlerian angst right through the stormy opening movement.

Brendel is on record as declaring this concerto "the most miraculous work he [Brahms] ever composed". His feeling for it was simply evident not only in the commanding technique of his piano playing but, more importantly, in the intellectual gravitas with which he took the musical line through from its initial grandeur to a final rondo of stunning rhythmic vivacity.

The conductor prefaced this with polish and clarity of orchestral texture in Weber's overture to *Oberon*, the introduction gently evocative like turning the pages of a much-loved book, and the rest springing into picturesque focus. His gestured pleasure in the orchestra's response was subsequently reaffirmed in a work that never diminishes with repetition.

Lucky were those who heard this account of it, not because it had anything different to say but because Tennstedt applied a kind of regenerative vitality to his romantic exploration of the music's character. He made use of doubled woodwind in the orchestra, but only as reinforcement for particular passages. In the music's sense of triumph over adversity could be felt a reflection of the conductor's own indomitable struggle against ill health.

NOEL GOODWIN

TELEVISION

Found: a clown who really does want to play Hamlet

Anthea Gerrie charts the career of Britain's "lovable hooligan" with serious ambitions

Adrian Edmondson is certain to drive disgusted viewers to their telephones on Sunday when he plays the most unenviable screen character of 1990 in a BBC 1 drama, *News Hounds*.

The caricatured crassness which Edmondson perfected as Vivian in *The Young Ones* and later in the cult sitcom *Filthy Rich and Catflap* gives way to a portrait of evil.

As the loathsome tabloid news editor, Phil Burke, he rapes a reporter and sells everyone else in the cast down the river. "There was no script: we improvised our roles, and the rape was my own idea — I was afraid my character was in danger of becoming sympathetic," he explains. It is a masterful portrait which for Edmondson portends a new direction as a more serious actor.

"That's how I imagined myself from childhood," he confesses

ingeniously in his dressing-room before a performance of *The Rocky Horror Show*. He played Hamlet at his minor public school, Pocklington — an environment which, he points out, provided ample role models for the twits who are the staples of his comedy act. Then he discovered *Seppie* and *Son*, Hancock, Morecombe and Wise — the whole rich vein of Sixties television comedy — and has been aping Wilfrid Brambell's facial expressions ever since.

Like his longtime partner, Rik Mayall, Edmondson has built his career on the British penchant for lovable hooligans. He thinks people find a release, as he does, in screen violence, and spends happy hours tidying the mechanics of verbal abuse.

"I'm fascinated by arguments and relish the chance to watch and listen if I'm lucky enough to see one on the street. When you're not involved, they are hilarious."

Edmondson and Mayall perfected their bully-boy double act during a drama course at Manchester University, then travelled to London to work the comedy clubs before getting their break in *The Young Ones*. Mayall, sailed on solo to his own television series and is now filming in America. Edmondson himself tes-

tered on the brink of international fame when he was courted to direct *The Big Man*, opening next week with David Leland's name above the credits instead.

"I have every reason to think the world of movies might be worth avoiding," he says caustically. "William McIlvanney's wonderful book was consistently diluted every time the script was rewritten to please to someone, and I was soon elbowed out. You see a much better class of film on television."

Edmondson directs some of his own work and also writes much of his material — most notably the Comic Strip rock-band parody, *Bad News*, in which he starred as the group's leader, Vim Fuego. In the subsequent real-life concert tour, he also exorcised the badly-behaved rock 'n' roller that lurked within him.

His next two projects reunite him with his fellow rockers. He will direct a television film he is writing with Nigel Planer, and with co-star Mayall has written a new BBC sitcom to air next year. "We called it *Bottom* because it was the funniest word we could think of: it's about people who are right on the bottom. Rik plays a guy who was going to save the world but is now an embittered social climber, and I play an unemployed lout in a grubby suit, wasting away his days in the betting shop."

Established as a genuine comic talent of the Eighties, Edmondson is now thinking beyond knock-about farce. "Comedy is an over-rated medium: the notion today is that even the commercial break has to be relentlessly funny."

Nonetheless he has ambitions to play classical roles that are rarely exploited for their inherent humour. Hamlet has comic possibilities, he suggests, remembering the role that won him an Actor of the Year vote from classmates at Pocklington. "Shakespeare is full of laughs that get lost in over-reverent productions. Hamlet enjoyed his misery, and that's how I'd like to present him one day."

© News Hounds is on BBC 1, Sunday at 9.20pm.



Adrian Edmondson as journalist Phil Burke in *News Hounds*

BBC1

- 6.45 Open University: Engineering Mechanics. Series 7.10 Geochemical Mapping. Series 7.35 The British and American History. Series 8.00 Chemistry: Cars and Corrosion. Series 8.25 Maths: Motion in a Circle. Series 8.50 Playdays (r) 9.15 Umbrella. Children's multi-task religious programme (r).
- 9.30 This is the Day: That They May All Be One. Religious programme from the BBC, featuring a hymn by Richard and his wife Elizabeth. Richard is a Methodist.
- 10.00 Film: Rocket to the Moon (1957). Outsize performance from Burt Reynolds. Jimmy Cagney, Geri Philby and Terry Thomas as American showmen. Princess 1. Burt Reynolds arrives in Victorian England and decides to send Tom Thump (Cagney) to the moon. Directed by Don Sharp.
- 11.55 Bunyo. Cartoon fun with the mythical Australian creature.
- 12.05 Sign Extra. A special edition of Tomorrow's World, reporting from the Channel Tunnel area, with sign-language and subtitles.
- 12.30 Country File. John Craven investigates the future of Britain's water supply. 12.55 Weather.
- 1.00 News with Mike Stewart. Followed by Speaking Volumes. About Agatha. H.R.F. Keating, Jessica Mann, Linda Sample and Janet Morgan join P.D. James to discuss the life and the legacy of Agatha Christie. A film examines one of her most enduring characters, Hercule Poirot, whose origins may be attributed to a now almost forgotten writer, Frank Howell Evans.
- 1.45 The Pink Panther Show (r).
- 2.00 EastEnders (Contest).
- 3.00 Film: Heartbeats (1984). A first showing on network television for a moving television film based on the real-life experiences of the journalist Martin Lee (Mary Tyler Moore). James Garner plays a doctor husband, struck by a heart attack. The film charts his love for each other and their determination to enjoy life against all the odds. Directed by Glenn Jordan.
- 5.05 Barry Duck (r).

BBC2

- 6.35 Open University: Introduction to Pure Maths. Shapes and Flows. 7.00 Professional Judgement. Legal Standards. 7.25 Calculus: The Directional Derivative. 7.50 A Community by Design? 8.15 Everyday Violence. 8.40 Photosynthesis: The First Nanoscience. 9.05 Education: the Barnett Report. 9.30 Meetings of the Mind. The Education of Man. 1.00 Arts: King Cotton's Palace. 10.20 The Plant Cell Wall. 10.45 Maths: Modeling Cranes. 11.10 Genetics: A New Breed. 11.35 Frontiers of Geology. 12.00 Behind the Annual Report. 12.25 Survival in a Competitive Environment. 12.50 Education Special: Curriculum and Learning.
- 1.00 Ecology: Fluvial Polders - a Managed Succession. How land reclaimed from the sea by the Dutch has been successfully colonised by plants and animals.
- 1.25 Sunday Greyhound. Introduced by David Foster. The line-up is (subject to alteration): 1.30, 5.00 Motorcycling: Shell Oil AGU Super Cup from Malory.

5.30 The Great Picture Chase. CHOICE: Patrick Barlow, the actor who forms one half of the National Theatre of Brent, goes in search of angles and epic themes as he prepares to spend \$500 for the BBC art collection. Despite declaring himself to be a non-Christian, his main interest is in representations of biblical stories, preferably ones with a relevance for our own times. Not surprisingly, he finds an easy rapport with the artist John Langley, whose vivid use of Christian iconography soon has Barlow drooling. The emphasis is on living painters, with Craigie Aitchison and Albert Hervey also getting the Barlow seal of approval, with brief diversions to take in the dead Stanley Spencer and Eric Gill. Initially smacking of a gimmick, The Great Picture Chase has settled into a consistently enjoyable series, with each programme distinctively different and offering a useful guide to collecting within a reasonable price range.

6.00 The Clothes Show. A new series of the fashion magazine, Jeff Banks looks at tartan appeal and discovers why older models are proving to be so popular. Selma Scott tests Nottingham's reactions to the puffs jacket and interviews Gwyneth Matthews, one of the world's fastest knitters, while Caryn Franklin reports on "green" clothing.

6.25 News with Mike Stewart. Weather. 6.40 Songs of Praise. Pam Rhodes visits the Cornish fishing village of Polperro and joins locals and tourists around the harbour for the hymns. (Contest).

7.15 Last of the Summer Wine. Foggy (Brian Wilde) is back after a six-year gap as Roy Clarke's ageing comedy starts yet another new series. (Contest).

7.45 Howards' Way. Stephen Yardley, Kate O'Hara and Jan Harvey return to weather the latest storms in this ocean-going soap. (Contest).

8.35 Bread. The Breadwinners return for what is reported to be the final series of Carla Lane's boisterous Merseyside comedy. (Contest).

9.05 News with Mike Stewart. Weather. 9.20 Film: News Hounds (1980).

CHOICE: The antics of tabloid journalism form an ideal subject for director Les Blair's improvisatory style and darkly comic vision of contemporary life. Looking for sleaze

in high places and low, the dynamically ungranted newsroom of The Brit tries to pin a new scandal on a Conservative cabinet minister and reveal the murky past of a young soap star. Edwina Currie plays herself in an interview with the paper's star columnist, a performance of hilarious brilliance from Alison Steadman. Eschewing the following loudness of her Young Ones persona, Adrian Edmondson (see interview, p.19) is fine as the monstrous news editor and there is equally strong playing from the rest of the team. As a comedy, News Hounds is all the funnier for not trying to send up too high a subject which already verges on self-parody. But the cinematic episode of the hounding of the young actor and his family is too horrible to be remotely funny. (Contest).



Sweeping Currie: Alison Steadman (9.20pm)

11.05 Everyone: The Hangman of Lyon. The Story of Paul Tourner, France's most famous hangman, who was executed by guillotine in 1944. (Contest).

11.15 The Days and Nights of Molly Dodd. David Cassidy series starring Blair Brown as an American real-estate broker.

12.00am Network East: Pomegranate. Shown yesterday at 2.45pm on BBC2.

1.00 Weather.

7.30 Omnibus: Live from the Proms. A simultaneous broadcast with Radio 2, Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra, the BBC Symphony Chorus and the Liverpool Philharmonic Chorus in a performance of Beethoven's Ninth Symphony and Janáček's Glagolitic Mass.

9.25 Joseph Campbell and the Power of Myth: Masks of Eternity. In the last of a series of conversations about myth, the late Joseph Campbell talks to Bill Moyers about his concepts of God, religion and eternity. Campbell uses insights from theological debates to support his theories. (Contest).

10.05 Moviedrome. Introduced by Alex Cox: Film: A Bullfight for the General (1987). The cult film series continues with director Damiano Damiani's violent and powerful spaghetti western. Glen Matlock (Sex Pistols) leads a strong cast as Mexican bandit El Chumoso, who unwittingly allows an American agent (Luis Tosca) to infiltrate his gang. Jaime Fernandez plays General Flores, the rebel leader who turns the outlaw into a hero. (Contest). Ends 12.05am.

ITV LONDON

- 6.00 TV-am.
- 9.25 The Disney Club. John Eccleston, Andrea Boardman and Gordon Hines return with a new series of cartoons, music and competitions.
- 10.45 Link: Americans with Disabilities. Act. Kevin Mulhearn talks to Ed Roberts, the founder of the American Disability Movement, an organisation which has been successful in improving the civil rights of disabled people in the United States.
- 11.00 Morning Worship. From the Roman Catholic Church of Our Lady Queen of Martyrs and St Ignace in Chesham, Dorset, part of Chesham Manor House.
- 12.00 Heartland: God Bless Romania. A report on what the future holds for the people of Romania after the end of the communist regime. The report includes an interview with a member of the Orthodox and Baptist churches at their opposing religious views and discuss what their respective churches can offer to the people of Romania.
- 12.30 The Care Bears 12.55 LWT News.
- 1.00 News with Sue Carpenter. Weather.
- 1.10 Walden. Brian Walden hosts a new series of topical and incisive interviews. He is joined by Gerald Kaufmann, shadow foreign secretary, who talks about the crisis in the Gulf.
- 2.00 The Snow Spider. Drama about a young boy, Gwyn, who receives a letter from his grandfather, who is dying. Gwyn is determined to find out what his grandfather was up to on his last birthday. The unusual purpose of the gifts is to determine whether Gwyn should inherit the magical powers of his Welsh ancestors. Sharni Pringle, Sharni Morgan and Robert Blythe (r).

CHANNEL 4

- 6.00 Trans World Sport (r).
- 6.10 Gutterart: Courty Dances. Julian Bream plays guitar music from the 17th and 18th centuries (r).
- 7.30 Once upon a Time... Life. Cartoon journey through the organs and cells of the human body (r).
- 8.55 Ramona. Drama series based on the three novels by Beverly Cleary about a mischievous eight-year-old girl (r).
- 9.25 Band Bajaz. The final programme of the Asian music series.
- 10.00 Fat Man Goes North. To Hell, the start of a four-part series in which broadcaster Tom Vernon pedals his bicycle to the Russian border via Norway, Sweden and Finland (r).
- 11.00 Storyworld. Deep and honest children explore the fun of storytelling through signing, mime and games (r).
- 11.30 Ely and Joos. 12.00 The Waltons. 1.00 Land of the Giants.
- 2.00 The Journey. See young criminals, all persistent offenders, undertake a month-long journey across New Zealand, ostensibly to aid the 1988 election, but more probably in the hope that the journey might succeed in changing their behaviour (r).
- 2.55 The Three Stooges: Cash and Carry. Mayhem with the bumbling trio of Moe, Larry and Curly (r).
- 3.15 The All-England Hairdressing Competition. Logan presents the action from Cork in Dublin as Gailway take on Cork for the Liam McCann Cup (r).
- 5.05 Gravitation. A cartoon from Bulgaria followed by Automata 2000 (r).
- The Question. Two of the best animators in the world, Peter Lord and David Batters, celebrate their fifth anniversary.
- 5.25 News Summary and weather.

- 4.00 The London Match. Eitan Moore returns with a new series of football highlights from one of yesterday's Barclays League games involving teams from the London region. Plus goal action from other last season matches and a round-up of news and results.
- 5.00 Charlie's Angels. The return of the clamorous detective trio.
- 6.00 Fit Clued Up. Word game show.
- 6.30 News with Sue Carpenter. Weather.
- 6.35 LWT News and weather.
- 6.40 Highway. Harry Secombe begins a new round of travels in Britain, starting in Glasgow, the 1992 European City of Culture.
- 7.15 Murder. She Wrote: The Error of Her Ways. Angela Lansbury's crime writer Jessica Fletcher investigates a murder in Palm Springs.
- 8.15 Blind Faith. The first episode of a two-part drama, continuing tomorrow a series based on the true story of the murder of Mary Marshall. The ensuing police investigation questioned her husband's complicity in the crime. Starring Robert Urich and Joanna Kerns.
- 9.10 News with Sue Carpenter. Weather.
- 9.15 The South Bank Show.
- CHOICE: Never one to miss a strong conning line, Melvyn Bragg introduces the Greek Cypriot restaurant's son we now know as George Michael as "the most successful pop artist of the last decade". Talking to Bragg, Michael suggests that in the past decade he would be happy to leave his behind and prefer to be remembered as a writer. The interview forms the some of Alan Benson's film, which has The South Bank Show virtues of accessibility and lack of pretension but also the tendency to take its subject on its own terms.



Reluctant star: George Michael (10.10pm)

The independent voice of Time Out's Nick Coleman is not strong enough to offset the inevitably partisan view proffered by Michael and his manager, Simon Nageir. But thanks to a simple musical illustration viewers can make their own assessment of Michael's evolving style, from his alleged Thelma Houston period to the canny water-performer of "Praying for Time" (Contest).

11.10 Comics. The Ninth Art. Are comics an art form?

11.45 The ITV Chart Show (r).

12.45am Pick of the Week.

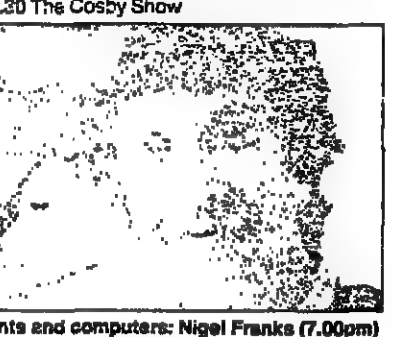
1.15 Film: The House that Dropped Blood (1970) starring Peter Cushing, Christopher Lee and Ingrid Pitt. Robert Bloch's quartet of horror stories about the blood-curdling history of a house in the country. An excellent cast and Peter Duffell's direction add to the suspense.

3.05 Portrait of America: Hawaii.

4.00 The Silk Road (r).

5.00 The New News with Sue Carpenter. Ends 6.00.

- 6.30 Dancedaze: Dancing into the Nineties. The first of two music specials recorded at the Academy Theatre in London celebrating Eighties dance music and fashion.
- 6.30 The Cosby Show.



Ants and computers: Nigel Franks (7.00pm)

7.00 Equinox: Blue Skies.

CHOICE: Don Braben is the energetic head of Venture Research, a body which offers funding for scientific ideas which the conventional research bodies decline to back. Venture Research is a small-scale operation which has an annual budget of £3m and has supported only 60 projects since it was started a decade ago. But Braben sees it as filling a vital role in encouraging maverick or obscure scientists who might otherwise be thwarted. Adrian Logan presents the action from Cork in Dublin as Gailway take on Cork for the Liam McCann Cup (r).

5.05 Gravitation. A cartoon from Bulgaria followed by Automata 2000 (r).

The Question. Two of the best animators in the world, Peter Lord and David Batters, celebrate their fifth anniversary.

5.25 News Summary and weather.

reasonably. Venture Research does not impose targets or time limits. But some indication of its success rate might have led weight to Braben's case. (Teletext).

8.00 John Brown's Body: The End of History. Through the media of acting, song and dance, the future of Scottish industry and the people who work in it is explored in the final programme in the series.

8.00 A Joke Too Far: Les Chateaux du Dracula. The short season of some of the best entries in the Montreux television festival continues with a Romanian film, made immediately after last year's revolution. A mixture of satirical and humorous images, it gives voice to the passions of a liberated people. With English subtitles.

10.00 Keep Off the Grass. A short film about a bag lady and a passer-by who discover they have a lot in common (r).

10.30 Channel 4 Racing International: The Arlington Million. Brough Scott introduces coverage from Chicago of the tenth anniversary of the turf's first million-dollar race.

11.05 Film: Niagara (1953). Shot against the spectacular backdrop of Niagara Falls, Henry Hathaway's mastery suspense thriller casts Marilyn Monroe as the amoral, adulterous wife who schemes with her lover (Richard Allen) to make her husband (Joseph Cotten) her own. But their plan goes disastrously wrong. (Teletext).

12.45am Film: Xala (1974). Senegalese director Ousmane Sembene's biting-style comedy is a humorous account of a man, who on the eve of his third marriage, tells of his temporary impotence. With English subtitles.

Ends 3.00.

RADIO 1

- 6.00am City King 7.00 The Bruno and Les Brown Show 9.30 Dave Lee Travis 12.30pm 50 Years of Nipper 6.00 8.00 Philo Spector 8.00 The 40 7.00 Anne Hegberg's Request Show 8.00 Andy Kershaw 11.30-2.00am Bob Harris on Sunday.

RADIO 2

- FM stereo.
- 6.00am Dave Allen 6.00 Graham Norton 7.30am Simon Jones 8.00am Good Morning Sunday 8.05am Melodiscs for You with Richard Gold 11.00am David Cameron 11.05am Radio 2 News 11.10am 11.15am 11.20am 11.25am 11.30am 11.35am 11.40am 11.45am 11.50am 11.55am 12.00am 12.05am 12.10am 12.15am 12.20am 12.25am 12.30am 12.35am 12.40am 12.45am 12.50am 12.55am 1.00am 1.05am 1.10am 1.15am 1.20am 1.25am 1.30am 1.35am 1.40am 1.45am 1.50am 1.55am 2.00am 2.05am 2.10am 2.15am 2.20am 2.25am 2.30am 2.35am 2.40am 2.45am 2.50am 2.55am 3.00am 3.05am 3.10am 3.15am 3.20am 3.25am 3.30am 3.35am 3.40am 3.45am 3.50am 3.55am 4.00am 4.05am 4.10am 4.15am 4.20am 4.25am 4.30am 4.35am 4.40am 4.45am 4.50am 4.55am 5.00am 5.05am 5.10am 5.15am 5.20am 5.25am 5.30am 5.35am 5.40am 5.45am 5.50am 5.55am 6.00am 6.05am 6.10am 6.15am 6.20am 6.25am 6.30am 6.35am 6.40am 6.45am 6.50am 6.55am 7.00am 7.05am 7.10am 7.15am 7.20am 7.25am 7.30am 7.35am 7.40am 7.45am 7.50am 7.55am 8.00am 8.05am 8.10am 8.15am 8.20am 8.25am 8.30am 8.35am 8.40am 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Relatives of hostages urge government to negotiate

By ARTHUR LEATHLEY

THE government came under increased pressure yesterday to intensify its efforts to gain the release of the three Britons being held hostage in Beirut. In spite of Foreign Office assurances that it was doing all it could, demands for more diplomatic activity grew swiftly in reaction to Brian Keenan's harrowing account of his time in captivity with the journalist John McCarthy.

The success of Irish diplomats in securing Mr Keenan's release is seen by relatives of the British hostages, Terry Waite, Mr McCarthy and Jackie Mann, as evidence of what can be achieved through prolonged negotiation.

The most vehement appeal yesterday came from John Waite,

cousin of Terry Waite, the Archbishop of Canterbury's special envoy, who was captured in Beirut in January, 1987.

"We have left it to the British government and allowed them to carry on. Now we have to face the fact that we are the only country which has not negotiated the release of a hostage. The precedent is there now. The Irish have secured the release of Brian Keenan without doing any sort of a deal. There is no doubt that the British government must now do more to secure the release of our hostages." Referring to Mr Keenan's impassioned description, he added: "We had a glimpse of hell yesterday... it has ended for Brian but it continues for John. And they had company. Imagine how it must be for Terry who has not been kept with other hostages."

There was some confusion yesterday about the amount of contact between the British and Irish foreign offices since Mr Keenan's release. The Foreign Office would say only that it was "maintaining contact as always" although the Dublin office later reported "increased contact". The Irish have offered to make available the contacts they have nurtured during their negotiations, involving their most senior diplomats and politicians, but would not say whether the offer had been taken up.

The Foreign Office maintains that the British position should not be compared directly to that of the neutral Irish but accepts that the success in freeing Mr Keenan is a positive move.

Terry Waite's brother, David, also urged the government to work swiftly and closely with the Irish. "We have always backed the government's view that no deals should be done with terrorists and I still believe that. But we are talking about human lives and it is far too important a matter to play party or national politics."

The Waite family's comments echoed the views of Jill Morrell, of the Friends of John McCarthy, who has repeatedly called on the government to follow the lead of the Irish in negotiating closely with Iran and Syria.

Kremlin's plans for reform falter

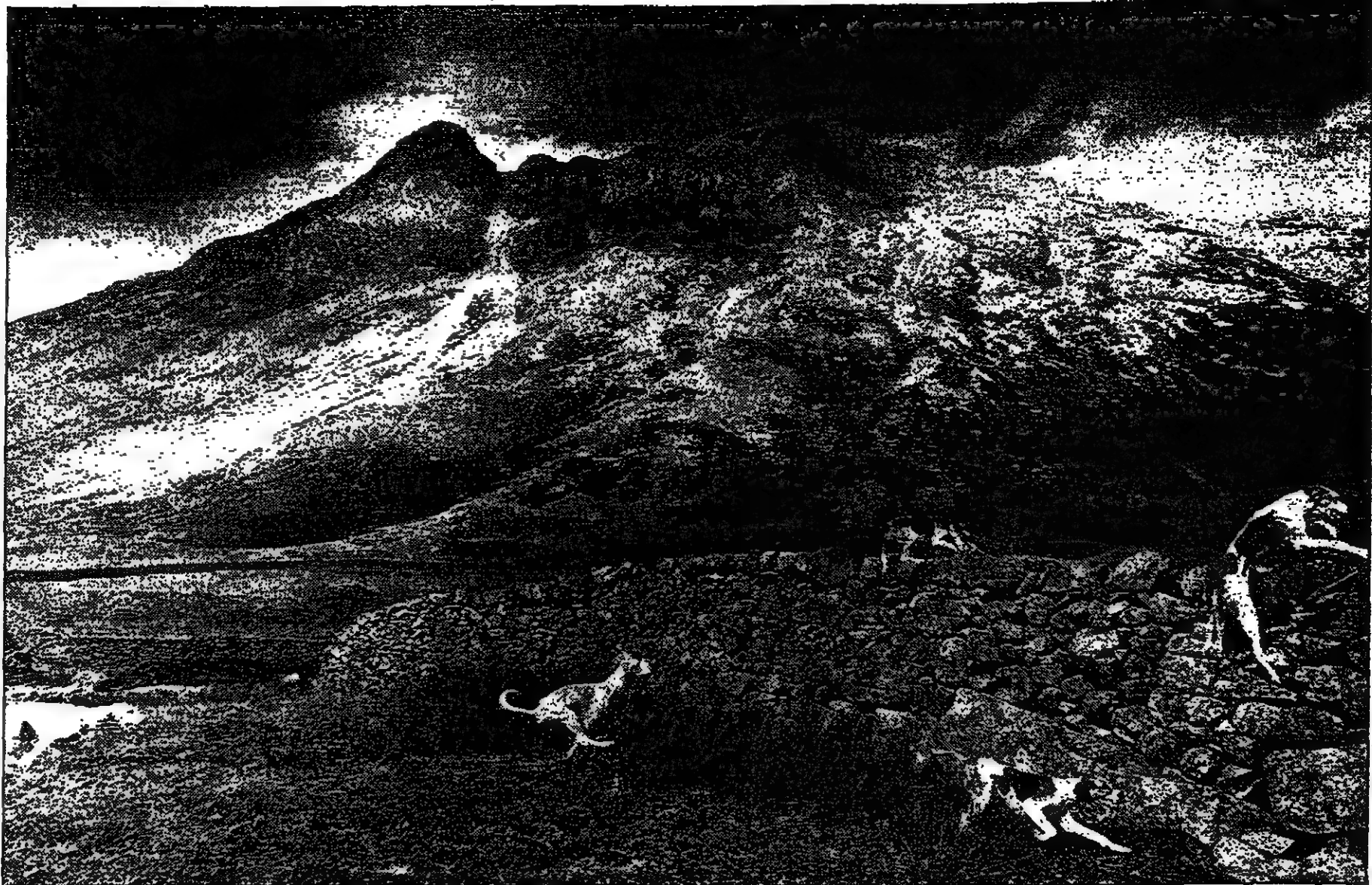
Continued from page 1

men. The new committee has the task, described by several authoritative Soviet commentators as impossible, of combining the two plans. Neither has yet been made public, but the government programme is believed to maintain much central control and insist on universal safeguards as prices rise.

The other, referred to by Mr Gorbachev as the "Shatalin programme" after his chief economic adviser, Stanislav Shatalin, is believed to propose a limited period when price controls will remain, coupled with intensive privatisation to soak up roubles for which there are at present no goods to exchange.

Mr Gorbachev also stood by his earlier insistence that the Soviet market should remain "integrated, a single economic territory". There was an urgent need to bring society together, he said, alluding to social and ethnic divisions in recent months.

"We can only extricate ourselves if we stay together," he said, warning that an already complex situation would only become more complex if people showed "resistance".



Homage to a drystone wall in front of the Langdale Pikes in Cumbria as they compete in the Round Trail Association's premier trails race. The dogs, specially bred for the sport, follow a trail of antiseptic and

paraffin laid earlier in the day. Homage cover the nine-mile course, which rises to 2,000ft, in about 40 minutes (Daniel Treisman writes). Dogs race at scores of courses in Cumbria and areas near the

Scottish border. Events are held every day except Friday and Sunday, when betting is not permitted, during a season which lasts from April to October. Between 20 and 30 dogs compete in each trail, leaping fences,

walls and hedges. Some of the fastest dogs will test their endurance today at the Little's Arms trials at Cock Hov Farm, near Euxterdale, where they will compete for £2,500 in prize money.

£120m for angry French farmers

By MICHAEL HORNSEY, AGRICULTURE CORRESPONDENT

FRANCE yesterday sought to appease its rioting farmers with a multimillion-pound aid package to cushion losses caused by drought and falling beef and lamb prices. Henri Nallet, the French agriculture minister, announced the aid worth 1.2 billion francs (£120 million) two days after 200,000 farmers clashed with riot police in protests against meat and livestock imports from Britain and other countries.

John Gummer, Britain's agriculture minister, was said by his officials last night to have no comment on the announcement.

The National Farmers' Union, which yesterday submitted its own request for assistance to Mr Gummer, said the French aid

appeared to be directed to the southern areas that were worst-hit by drought. John Kerr, head of the union's livestock department, said: "To that extent, we would not want to make too much fuss about it provided that normal trade will resume."

In a letter to Mr Gummer, Sir Simon Goussier, the NFU president, called for EC measures to assist livestock producers, including increased purchases of surplus beef by the community to shore up market prices. He said the squeeze on British farmers' incomes was such that Mr Gummer should consider asking Brussels for special grants under its direct income aids scheme.

They were planning a mass lobby of the French embassy in London to underline their determination to defend an export trade worth £50 million a year. Farmers in North Wales have been pressing for a retaliatory boycott of French cheese and vegetables.

M Nallet announced that French customs and veterinary authorities would tighten controls on imports of beef and lamb by requiring livestock to be unloaded for sanitary inspection. The NFU last night said some inspection was routine but controls would be unacceptable if they went beyond normal practice.

Breaking screen, page 9
Letters, page 11

De Klerk declares party will be open to all races

Continued from page 1

bring this country to its knees. Racism is gone forever.

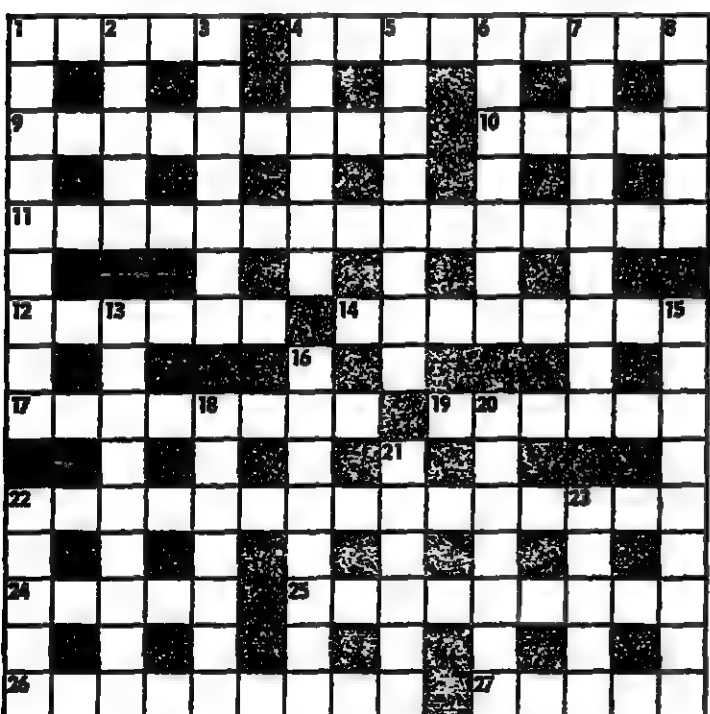
"There is only one road to peace, and that is co-operation and joint decision-making with guarantees for minorities. We will pursue this course to its logical conclusion, because we are convinced it is right and fair."

The road to Damascus marked out by Mr de Klerk was promptly bustling with disciples. A succession of speakers lauded his initiative in glowing terms, summed up by one emotional delegate who said: "Mr President, this is powerful stuff. You have made us proud to be South Africans. Now we can walk tall."

by rank-and-file supporters outside the party structures remains to be seen. The Nationalists have lost substantial support to the right wing since Mr de Klerk began his reform initiative in February; his latest move is bound to dismay waverers who have looked to the party for four decades to sustain white supremacy.

However, party strategists believe it may compensate for these losses by attracting large numbers of moderate blacks, Coloureds (mixed race) and Indians who have expressed support for Mr de Klerk's reforms in opinion polls. Analysts believe it may even gain recruits among disaffected members of the African National Congress.

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 18,388



- ACROSS**
- 1 To guard against losing money, put in box, perhaps (5).
 - 4 Accordingly, spies eunuchise who's left (9).
 - 9 Fruit in tree can degenerate (9).
 - 10 Labourer's refusal to accept work initially halved (5).
 - 11 Dons are unlikely to find this tree funny (7,8).
 - 12 Boy getting nothing (as it happens) right (6).
 - 14 Crustacean caught two aquatic creatures (8).
 - 17 Island in North Atlantic abandoned by grotesque citizen (8).
 - 19 Contributions to goal in each half of York's victory (6).
 - 22 Trim Elizabeth's favourite sheep (6,9).
 - 24 Clues for auditor in the City (5).
 - 25 Awful blunder I'd not kept under control (9).
 - 26 United about Italian, head observed (9).
 - 27 Appropriate girl to kiss (5).

- DOWN**
- 1 Leaves effortlessly (5,4).
 - 2 Maxims in reference book's abridged article (5).
 - 3 Name English eleven, perhaps, for test (7).
 - 4 Minor discourtesy (6).
 - 5 After century, he is to sign up for the county (10).
 - 6 Many set free in this? (7).
 - 7 Deceit in the family, of necessity? (9).
 - 8 Meeting contributing to country's troubles (5).
 - 13 To carry out burial, religious group makes cross (9).
 - 15 Theodore's letters to unknown dissident (9).
 - 16 Scapagoes in hospital after collapse (4,4).
 - 18 Secretly watch, like bishop? (7).
 - 20 A married woman in the country (7).
 - 21 Sailor's succinct moral statement (6).
 - 22 Subordinate to experience melancholy (5).
 - 23 One may be taken from end of foot on a fierce predator (5).

Solution to Puzzle No 18,387

SPURGE NEMESIS
U A C I Y U A N D
P I N A P P L E P A T A L
E K R O T S I
R U I N I N G S O B R I Q U E T
E R U T R M U
T R E A S U R E I S L A N D
A C C I D E N T A L L Y
S U B W A R D E L G A R D
M E T S I M E R
P H E N O M E N A N I E C E
L E O S T R I N
A S T O R I N K E E P I N G
N U S F E R R A C A
T U I G E S T R I V S A I L I

Solution to Puzzle No 18,382

W E S T E R N S A M O A
L I C I A C I Y U A N D
P I N A P P L E P A T A L
E K R O T S I
R U I N I N G S O B R I Q U E T
E R U T R M U
T R E A S U R E I S L A N D
A C C I D E N T A L L Y
S U B W A R D E L G A R D
M E T S I M E R
P H E N O M E N A N I E C E
L E O S T R I N
A S T O R I N K E E P I N G
N U S F E R R A C A
T U I G E S T R I V S A I L I

PARKER DUOFOLD
A prize of a superb Parker Duofold International Fountain Pen, with an 18 carat gold nib and fully guaranteed for the lifetime of the original owner will be given to the first solver of the crossword puzzle published in this paper on Thursday. Entries should be addressed to: The Times, Saturday Crossword Competition, PO Box 486, Virginia Street, London E1 9DD. The winners and solution will be published next Saturday.

Name/Address

WORD-WATCHING

A daily safari through the language jungle. Which of the possible definitions is correct?

By Philip Howard

- GAPPY**
a. Fall of gaps
b. Talkative
c. Riverside wet forest
- TEER**
a. First-year fallow deer
b. The town crier in Sark
c. To plaster
- GALLIMATIAS**
a. Nonsense
b. A pulse stew
c. A helmet eyepiece
- TONNAG**
a. A useless horse
b. A shawl
c. Orkney standing steels

Answers on page 13

TIMES WEATHERCALL

For the latest region by region forecast, 24 hours a day, dial 0898 500 followed by the appropriate code.

- | | |
|--|-----|
| Greater London | 701 |
| Kent, Surrey, Sussex | 702 |
| Dorset, Hants & IOW | 703 |
| Devon & Cornwall | 704 |
| Wilt, Glouce, Avon, Somerset | 705 |
| Beds, Bucks, Oxon | 706 |
| Beds, Herts & Essex | 707 |
| Northants, Suffolk, Cambs | 708 |
| West Mid & Shropshire | 709 |
| Shropshire & W. Worcs | 710 |
| Central Midlands | 711 |
| East Midlands | 712 |
| Lincoln & Humberside | 713 |
| Dyfed & Powys | 714 |
| Gwynedd & Chwyd | 715 |
| N W England | 716 |
| W & S Yorks & Dales | 717 |
| N E England | 718 |
| Cumbria & Lake District | 719 |
| S W Scotland | 720 |
| W Central Scotland | 721 |
| Edin S Fife, Lothian & Borders | 722 |
| E Central Scotland | 723 |
| Grampian & E Highlands | 724 |
| N W Scotland | 725 |
| Caithness, Orkney & Shetland | 726 |
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| C. London (within M4 & S. Croy.) | 731 |
| M-ways/roads M4-M1 | 732 |
| M-ways/roads M1-Dartford T. | 733 |
| M-ways/roads Dartford T.-M25 | 734 |
| M-ways/roads M25-M4 | 735 |
| M25 London Orbital only | 736 |
| National traffic and roadworks | |
| National motorways | 737 |
| West Country | 738 |
| Wales | 739 |
| Midlands | 740 |
| East Anglia | 741 |
| North-west England | 742 |
| North-east England | 743 |
| Scotland | 744 |
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The winners of last Saturday's competition are: F. Robbins, Long Acre, Wiltshire; Somerset: S. Hanson, Springfield, Clow, Golden Cumin, Wiltshire; J. Woodfield, Priory Road, Southsea, Hampshire; O. M. Darke, Mackery End, Guzeley Lane, Cambridge; S. J. McWaters, Pill Cottage, Llanidloes, Shropshire.

Concise Crossword, page 13

WEATHER

England and Wales will be cloudy with scattered outbreaks of rain. The rain will be heavy in places, but will gradually die out from the west. Western coasts may stay cloudy with some light rain, but the south-east should stay dry and bright. Scotland, northern England and Northern Ireland will have sunny spells and scattered showers. Outlook: sunny and dry at first, but rain will spread to all parts.

ABROAD

Area	Temp	Wind	Cloud	Notes
Algeria	28	SE	75	
Alexandria	28	SE	75	
Athens	28	SE	75	
Bombay	28	SE	75	
Buenos Aires	28	SE	75	
Calcutta	28	SE	75	
Cairo	28	SE	75	
Colon	28	SE	75	
Hong Kong	28	SE	75	
London	28	SE	75	
Madras	28	SE	75	
Manila	28	SE	75	
Mumbai	28	SE	75	
Nairobi	28	SE	75	
Rangoon	28	SE	75	
Singapore	28	SE	75	
Taipei	28	SE	75	
Tokyo	28	SE	75	
Yokohama	28	SE	75	

AROUND BRITAIN

Area	Temp	Wind	Cloud	Notes
London	28	SE	75	
Manchester	28	SE	75	
Glasgow	28	SE	75	
Edinburgh	28	SE	75	
Belfast	28	SE	75	
Cardiff	28	SE	75	
Birmingham	28	SE	75	
Nottingham	28	SE	75	
Leeds	28	SE	75	
Sheffield	28	SE	75	
Coventry	28	SE	75	
Southampton	28	SE	75	
Bristol	28	SE	75	
Exeter	28	SE	75	
Cardiff	28	SE	75	
Belfast	28	SE	75	

YESTERDAY

Area	Temp	Wind	Cloud	Notes
London	28	SE	75	
Manchester	28	SE	75	
Glasgow	28	SE	75	
Edinburgh	28	SE	75	
Belfast	28	SE	75	
Cardiff	28	SE	75	
Birmingham	28	SE	75	
Nottingham	28	SE	75	
Leeds	28	SE	75	
Sheffield	28	SE	75	
Coventry	28	SE	75	
Southampton	28	SE	75	
Bristol	28	SE	75	
Exeter	28	SE	75	
Cardiff	28	SE	75	
Belfast	28	SE	75	

LIGHTNING UP TIME

Area	Temp	Wind	Cloud	Notes
London	28	SE	75	
Manchester	28	SE	75	
Glasgow	28	SE	75	
Edinburgh	28	SE	75	
Belfast	28	SE	75	
Cardiff	28	SE	75	
Birmingham	28	SE	75	
Nottingham	28	SE	75	
Leeds	28	SE	75	
Sheffield	28	SE	75	
Coventry	28	SE	75	
Southampton	28	SE	75	
Bristol	28	SE	75	
Exeter	28	SE	75	
Cardiff	28	SE	75	
Belfast	28	SE	75	

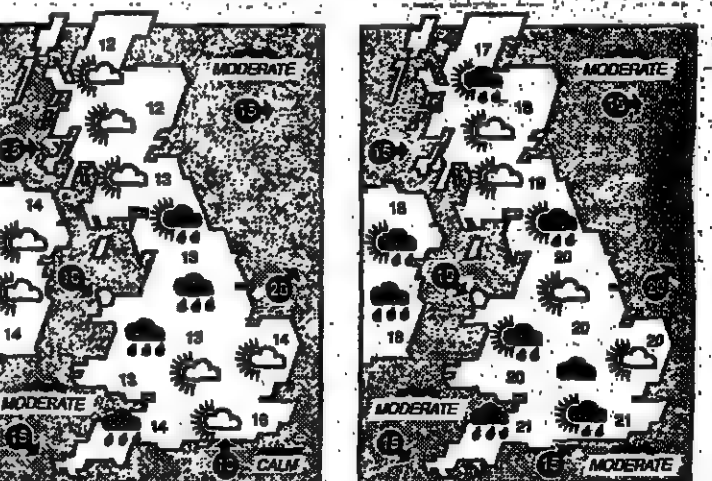
TOWER BRIDGE

Tower Bridge will be closed at the following times today: 9.05am and 9.35am.

HIGH TIDES

Area	Temp	Wind	Cloud	Notes
London	28	SE	75	
Manchester	28	SE	75	
Glasgow	28	SE	75	
Edinburgh	28	SE	75	
Belfast	28	SE	75	
Cardiff	28	SE	75	
Birmingham	28	SE	75	
Nottingham	28	SE	75	
Leeds	28	SE	75	
Sheffield	28	SE	75	
Coventry	28	SE	75	
Southampton	28	SE	75	
Bristol	28	SE	75	
Exeter	28	SE	75	
Cardiff	28	SE	75	
Belfast	28	SE	75	

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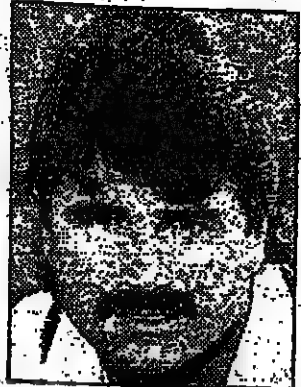
BT108J

SPORT 23-29
RACING 28-29
BOATS 31
MONEY 32-44
MANCHESTER DEGREES 37

SPORT

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 1 1990

The final chance



ALLAN Lamb (above) leads Northamptonshire into the final of the NatWest Trophy against Lancashire at Lord's today, hoping to bring a successful conclusion to a year which, for his county, has been more notable for disciplinary and injury problems than success on the pitch.

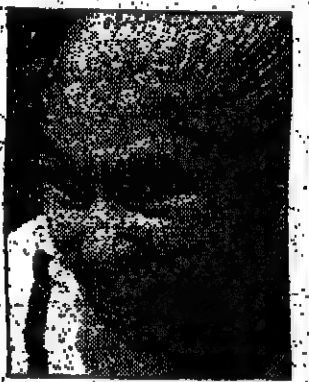
GOLF

Back in front

SANDY Lyle, the former winner of the Open Championship, put himself on course for his first championship for two years. His 66 in the second round at Crans-sur-Sierre yesterday gave him a share of the lead at 11 under par. Page 28

TENNIS

Seles point



MONICA Seles (above), the No. 3 seed, was beaten by Linda Ferrando from Italy, 1-6, 6-1, 7-6, in the third round of the US Open yesterday, however the talk at the tournament was still dominated by one of the leading men, Andre Agassi, who had been accused of spitting at an umpire. Page 26

RACING

Distant hopes

ENGLISH stables are strongly represented in the three group one European prizes in Ireland, France and Germany tomorrow. Willie Carson rides Elmamul, the Eclipse Stakes winner, in the Phoenix Champion Stakes at Phoenix Park while Pat Eddery partners Distant Relative in the Prix du Moulin at Longchamp. Ibn Bey, seeking his third group one German prize, leads the assault on the Grosser Preis von Baden at Baden-Baden. Page 28

FOOTBALL

Foreign field



ASTON Villa responded to losing Graham Taylor as their manager with an imaginative stroke, appointing Dr Jozef Venglos (above), the former manager of the Czechoslovak national team, as his successor. Clive White met the man who has become the first foreigner to manage a first division club. Page 25

YACHTING

A new wave

THE pursuit of an Olympic gold medal demands commitment and dedication. A small group of women are prepared to make the sacrifices that are necessary for a chance of success in 1992. Page 31

Innocent Elliott upsets hornets nest

From DAVID MILLER IN SPLIT INTERNATIONAL athletics is, and will continue to be, in a turmoil over what is going to become known as the Peter Elliott Affair. It is ironic that there should, over the years, have been so many controversies surrounding the career of so pleasant and uncontentious a man.

A formal protest yesterday by five countries to the jury of appeal at the European championships here, against the reinstatement on Thursday evening of Elliott in the 1500 metres final today, after he had been pushed and fallen in a semi-final, was rejected because,

under Rule 112 of the International Amateur Athletic Federation, no protest is permitted against a jury's final decision. The protest came from Spain, The Netherlands, Italy, Portugal and Switzerland.

In a statement of explanation, the jury said that, under Rule 141/1, it had the alternative of re-running the heat or reinstating Elliott. To have re-run the first heat would have required re-running both - because of the factor of the four fastest losers qualifying for the final - and the reinstatement of Elliott was considered the fairest solution.

The protest was on the grounds that Elliott, knocked down by Fuhbrügge, of East Germany, had not completed the course. There would have been no protest had he continued and finished, even if last, Luciano Barra, a council member of the European Athletic Association, said yesterday: "If people want a limitation of the scope to reinstate an athlete to those who finish the race, then it should be inserted in writing in the rules."

Andreas Brugger, the Zurich promoter, though not party to the protest, said: "This precedent means that in future we may have

runners deliberately falling, the same as in football - the diving runner."

Of half a dozen or more national federations with whom I have spoken, all considered the decision carried serious risks for the future. What if the athlete was not the favourite - as Jim Ryun was in the 1972 Olympic Games - but a lesser runner from an unfancied nation?

The answer, according to Juan Manuel de Hoz, the Spanish chairman of the jury, is that the decision "was not historic, but according to the rules... We

cannot accept that [in future] athletes would attempt such a deceptive practice [deliberately falling]". Such confidence in human nature may prove to be naive.

British opinion, trying to be as objective as possible in the circumstances, is that the decision was in the best interest of sportsmanship when Elliott was seriously fouled by an athlete who was disqualified. The view comes from Les Jones, the team manager, Robert Stinson, the IAAF treasurer, Fred Holder, a former IAAF official, and Alan Pascoe,

the marketing and promotions consultant. Yet if the IAAF managed to make all its future jury decisions on the grounds of sportsmanship as well as the rules, it would indeed be setting a precedent for the whole of international sport, never mind opening a hornets' nest.

Meanwhile, Elliott, relieved to be in the final but nursing a sprained, bandaged wrist, has certainly suffered more than had he run the full distance and qualified. "I just hope they don't whistle me when I go to the line," he said. "I'm glad to be there, but not by this means."

Supreme Jackson denies Jarrett

From DAVID POWELL ATHLETICS CORRESPONDENT SPLIT

COLIN Jackson was right. There had been no need to doubt that he and Tony Jarrett would score a one-two in the European championship 110 metres hurdles yesterday. Jackson, from Cardiff, won the gold, and Jarrett set an English record in taking the silver medal.

Jackson, the Commonwealth champion and arguably the world No. 1, had run two bad races out of three coming into the final, but here looked supreme once more. Only Greg Foster, the world champion, has run faster this year than the 13.18sec Jackson recorded yesterday. And Jackson has twice run 13.08sec, a European record, this year.

"It will definitely be a British one-two - it could be me first and him second, or the other way round," Jackson had said after striking five of the ten hurdles and looking unimpressive in the semi-final. His forecast could hardly have been more accurate. Jarrett was within a stride of upsetting the order.

The race was symmetry in motion: Jarrett, in lane four, leading with his left leg, Jackson, in lane seven, leading with his right, and both men rising over each hurdle imperceptibly. Only after the last, which Jarrett struck and Jackson did not, did the Welshman gain the upper hand. And, with the better run-in, he ended the race with only 0.03sec to spare.

Jarrett's 13.21sec improved by 0.04sec his own English record, set in Belfast in July.

Jackson, aged 23, arrived for the race with a bandaged right leg. He has been suffering cartilage trouble, and will have an exploratory operation when he gets home. Jackson had managed to keep the injury a secret from Jarrett, even though they were staying on the same floor in the team hotel.

"I just got beaten by the better man on the day. I've got a lot of respect for Colin because he has come out here in bandages and still won," Jarrett said.

Jackson said: "There was a lot of pressure on me, but I brought the best out of me." On his new haircut, which has left very little hair, his coach, Malcolm Arnold,

said: "He has had three offers from coconut shys since he has been here."

The bronze medal was won by Dietmar Kozewski, from West Germany, a long way back in 13.50sec. Philippe Tourret, the Frenchman who beat Jackson in Zurich a fortnight ago, could finish no better than sixth, in 13.61sec.

Jackson said: "I knew I had to get as good a start as Tourret. I had to put pressure on him to make him make mistakes."

Tatyana Ledovskaya, of the Soviet Union, won the 400 metres hurdles, not that you would have known it from what she said afterwards. "I ran without any special effort. I was surprised when I realised there was no one around me. I realised I had a great chance and I succeeded. It was fantastic," Ledovskaya speaking. No, Anita Protti, of Switzerland, who was second.

Sally Gunnell, of Britain, who was fifth in the Olympics, was disappointed to finish sixth here. Her optimism had belied her form. On Monday she thought she had "a good chance" of winning. However, nothing she had done this season pointed to that.

Gunnell was right about one thing, though. She had said in April that she would need to run under 54 seconds to win. Ledovskaya recorded 53.62sec. Gunnell finishing in 55.45sec. Her British record is 54.03sec.

Two years ago, Geoff Parsons said he expected to be Britain's No. 1 high jumper "for another seven years". His prediction was proved wrong in one year. In 1989, Dalton Grant equalled or broke 12 national records.

But this year Parsons got his own back. In a period of wretched form through June and early July, Grant was anybody's victim, including Parsons. His explanation was that his technique had suffered at the expense of strength work. Perhaps he has timed his season perfectly.

Winner at the Paracel Games and the AAA championship in the last six weeks, Grant has now qualified for today's final. Last year as much would have been assumed, and he won the European Cup; this time there were doubts.



A tilt at the title: Jackson (left) and Jarrett dip for the line to finish first and second in the European 110 metres hurdles in Split

The qualifying height was 2.28 metres, and Grant was successful on his third attempt. Now he can think of a medal. The high jump has come down a peg or two after the late withdrawal of the favourites for gold and silver. Sorin Matei, of Romania, and Patrik Sjöberg, of Sweden, have both been out because of injuries.

Ralf Sönn, of West Germany, Georgi Davkov, of the Soviet Union, and Dragutin Topic, the Yugoslav who set a world junior record last month, are the ones Grant most has to worry about.

At the Seoul Olympics, Russian athletes won all three medals in the hammer, but were down to two here. A knee injury has hindered Igor Nikulin's training and he was unable to live up to his billing as favourite, finishing third. His compatriot, Igor Asatkovich, took the gold with a moderate 64.14 metres.

Sabine Braun, of West Germany, held off the East German challenge to win the heptathlon gold, in spite of running a poor 800 metres in the final event. She had led after the first day, winning

the high jump with 1.91 metres, and showed great consistency in javelin, long jump and hurdles.

Results, page 24

RESULTS: Men: 110 metres hurdles: 1. C Jackson (GB), 13.18sec; 2. A Jarrett (GB), 13.21; 3. D Kozewski (FRG), 13.50; 4. P Tourret (FR), 13.61; 5. V Shvets (USSR), 13.62; 6. S Perotti (ITA), 13.63; 7. S Lacy (USA), 13.65; 8. K Kazanov (USSR), did not finish. Women: High jump: 1. H Hecker (FRG), 1.91m; 2. S Braun (FRG), 1.86; 3. V Veloso (USSR), 1.86; 4. S Kirschmann (Austria), 1.86; equal 5. J Kovacs (Hungary) and H Beck (FRG), 1.86; 7. V Gerasimova (USSR), 1.85; 8. H Hauspurg (FRG), 1.86; 9. S Laseva (Bulgaria), 1.85; 10. O Turkanova (USSR), 1.85; 11. J Brankovska (Czech), 1.85; 12. A Arnes (FRG), 1.80. Heptathlon: 1. S Braun (FRG), 6,885pts; 2. H Tschier (FRG), 6,572; 3. P Beer (FRG), 6,531; 4. I Belova (USSR), 6,521.

More results, page 24

Four-match ban

The Rugby League's disciplinary committee has imposed a four-match suspension on the Barrow forward Steve Clayton for being sent off in last Sunday's Lancashire Cup defeat at Wigan.

Simmering Indian summer comes slowly to the boil

THE only country that can outdo India is India itself. The row between the two great former cricketers, Sunil Gavaskar and Bishen Bedi, simmers on - they managed to play on the same side recently, without talking to each other. Baffling passages of play characterised the summer's splendid Test series. And now the Asian Games is providing India with another row of Mahabharata-like complexity.

India has provided the organisers of the Games with three completely different lists of competitors. Two rival factions of the Indian Olympic Association sent a list each; a third was provided by the two Indian members of the International Olympic Committee (IOC). They had been empowered by the IOC to put together a deadlock-breaking team. But the other two factions aren't having that.

As the controversy gathers momentum, Ranjit Bhalla, a sports commentator, equated sport with *tamasha*, or traditional folk theatre. "Tamasha contains tragedy, comedy and farce. We have not grasped the Western ethos by which international sport is run," he said.

The various factions are demanding that their own list should be chosen. "It will be an insult to India if the Chinese authorities recognise anyone but us," one sporting dignitary said. India has never won an individual Olympic gold. The most memorable moment on the athletics track in Seoul was a public row between members of the women's relay team, who ended up refusing to run. As the arguments continue, Vijay Amritraj, the tennis player, is in the middle of a row over money with the Indian Tennis Federation.

Sport is the *lingua franca* of the world. It is just that every nation understands it in a different way.

SIMON BARNES ON SATURDAY

Boys will be boys

THE United States Open tennis championships this week have been dignified (in so far as this event ever gets dignified) by the presence of a 56-year-old ballboy. The person in question is James Nelson, who came from Arkansas to New York in July to try out for the job. Steve Shukow, the event's assistant director of ballboys, said: "He's doing well."

Monkey business

T here have been scenes of wonder on the football pitch in Sicily. The Italian footy season began with a friendly between Palermo and Juventus, the script being the homecoming of Italy's World Cup hero, Toto Schillaci, a Sicilian who now plays for Juventus. The home club was rather surprised at the number of requests for wheelchair accommodation. The commune normally issues 120 free places to people in wheelchairs, but this time there were many more than that. However, the club gave them all their free passes in a very proper spirit. The crowd arrived, the wheelchairs were positioned beside the pitch, the match began - and at once, large numbers of the people in wheelchairs leapt to their feet, sprinted to the safety fence, scaled it like a troop of gibbons and vanished into the maw of the crowd. *Gracie! o Dio, è un miracolo.*

Has the world gone mad? This column's recent postbags have included two items for review that can only indicate an affirmative answer. I have a new book, the cover of which demands: "How

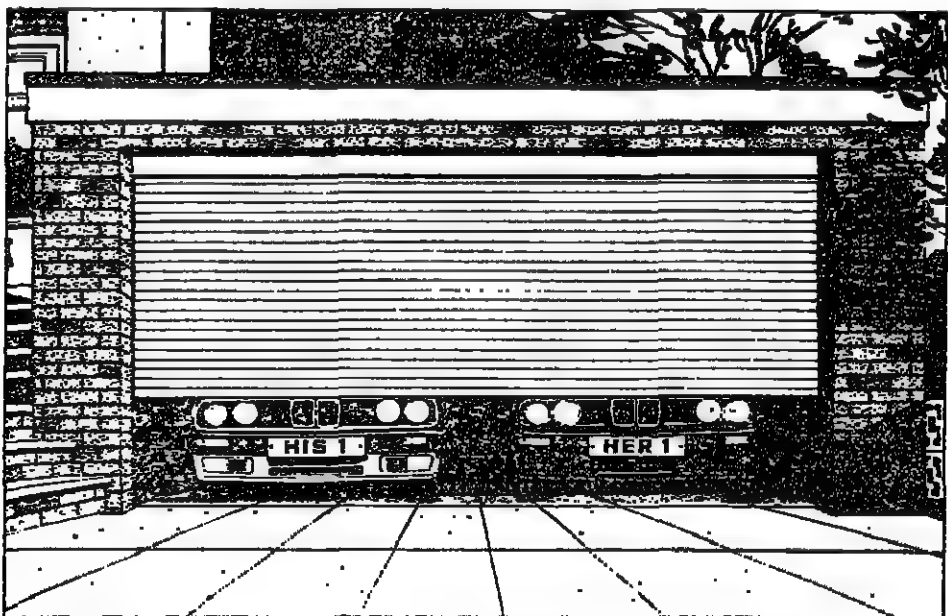
much do you really know about Derby County FC?" I find the question unanswerable, along with all the other questions the book asks. Which team travelled across the country in November 1960 to win 4-1 at the Baseball Ground - Derby's first defeat in the Football League Cup? What? You don't know? There are plenty more puzzles in The Official Derby County FC Quiz Book. You can buy it from the club shop for £5.95, but if you find this insufficiently stimulating, may I recommend the video of the 1990 Subbuteo World Cup? It is simply unforgettable. Oh, the answer to the Derby County question is, as I'm sure you know all along, Norwich City.

Lord's overthrown

I t is always a pleasure to see our rulers being given a hard time, and so I enjoyed watching Wes Hall's Barbadian cricket side administering a little stick to the Lord's and Commons team this week. The Lord's and Commons have discovered that their cricketing tradition goes deeper than they had thought. The club was founded in 1840, but research has revealed a parliamentary match played in 1770 between the Ministers and the Patriots - clearly mutually exclusive categories.

Gnats stop play

M ore on this column's favourite sporting arena, the Toronto Skydome. The retractable roof has been closed because of an invasion by gnats during a baseball game between the Milwaukee Brewers and the Toronto Blue Jays. The umpire, Don Denkinger, stopped the game for 35 minutes because there were so many insects flying about that neither players nor umpires could see. "I've never seen anything like it," he said. "I've seen games called off by rain, wind and snow, but never bugs."



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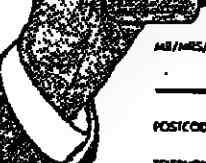
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consciously, racist administration. Christie, who was 30 in April and is Britain's most prolific medal winner, says he has not done enough yet to retire. "I still want something big, like the Olympic Games at the World Cup," he says. "The more you have done, the easier such a job would be, if I was considered."

At the moment, he says self-effacingly, being team captain does carry a bit of weight.

Although black competitors now dominate the British team, and non-whites form a substantial part of football, boxing, basketball and other national sports, Britain's lack of genuine, practical social integration has prevented non-whites achieving administrative and official coaching status in sport.

Keith Connor, the former triple jump champion, complained that there was prejudice against him when he applied for a national

COMMENT

DAVID MILLER
CHIEF SPORTS CORRESPONDENT

DeFrantz as a member of the International Olympic Committee representing the United States, the first black woman on the IOC, was an important advance, although integration in the professions, civil service and business is far more advanced in the US than in "egalitarian" Britain. Christie admits that substantial change will take time, though he accepts that the coloured population to an extent does not help itself.

"You don't see black parents at meetings, supporting the kids like white parents do," he says. "We've never had that. My parents thought I was crazy. So, see

worked for Securicor, and for the past year, the Milk Marketing Board, attending schools around the country and giving lectures on the role and responsibility of an international athlete. He assists with Lady Porter's Westminster Ribbon Society, an anti-drugs charity, and helped The Agood. He is a patron of disabled sports, and a member of the British Olympic Committee. "I know that Christ is for children, and even for younger members of the British team; that athletics is the easiest route to achieve anything, only if you have self-discipline, and that it is essential to enjoy it. The excitement of being in it is what makes it so important a thing for me in these championships," he says. "I'd still be in athletics even if I wasn't making money as a professional, which I now am. I tell youngsters, do it because you like it, and the money will come later. I don't show athletics

he says, and the most testing, is that it gives you the chance to show yourself one-against-one, unlike team games.

If Christie has an obvious weakness, it is a tendency, during the emotional surges just before and after races, to interrupt himself with a stream of comments. "I doubt about him expressed by the press. We have seen the same reaction often enough from Daley Thompson, even when they were proved justified, and Christie knows that it is something that a man with his ambitions must rise above." In a way, perhaps, it helps him. It gives me extra drive," he says.

It's the natural aggression in him, Christie says, when the blood is still pumping after a race, and he can't help himself. The blood has been pumping for two or three medals this week, maybe a third in the relay, and as he says: "There's a lot to achieve between now and '92."

RUGBY UNION

Cosmopolitan look as season gets ready for kick-off

Today's line-up

	year
Peter Elliott (GB)	3:33.0
Jens-Peter Herold (EG)	3:33.2
Jose Luis Gonzalez (Sp)	3:34.64
Mogens Guldberg (Den)	3:35.03
Neil Horsfield (GB)	3:35.08
Steve Cram (GB)	3:35.98
Mario Silva (Por)	3:36.42
Markus Hacksteinner (Switz)	3:36.63
Ferrn Cachó (Sp)	3:37.04
Gennaro di Napoli (It)	3:37.08
Han Kutter (Neth)	3:37.17
Man Guelmami (Lib)	3:37.25

past two years, cannot be disregarded after his 3min 34.64sec in Barcelona in July. Neil Horsfield, Britain's third man, said yesterday that he was "thinking of winning". If he does one wonders what

At the Parcellforce Games, where Horsfield won, Steve Buckley set a javelin world record while the 1,500 metres was in progress: Horsfield won the AAA championship while everyone was concentrating on Tony Morrell's reaction to being forced off the track; and here he was looking impressive in the second heat while everyone was reflecting on Ellison's fall in the first.

In the 5,000 metres today, Salvatore Antibo is as strong a favourite as Elliott. He won the 10,000 metres on a solo run, and victory here would be the men's riposte to Katrin Krabbe's double in the women's sprints.

Eamonn Martin and Gary Staines, of Britain, are two of perhaps half a dozen who may think they have a chance. "Antibo feels most comfort-

able getting a gap and I have to stop him doing that," Martin said. "Gary is someone I expect to beat, but he is in good shape [evidenced by his 13:14.28 in Zurich]. But there is no point in worrying about Gary with Antibio in there."

Three British men have qualified for the 1,500 metres final and three for the 5,000 metres. The marathon runners did not have heats, but still Bruhn has only one finalist.

Geoff Wightman, an afterthought by the selectors, is used to being alone: he was the only member of the English team in the Commonwealth Games to finish

Bent on success: Dalton Grant (above), of Britain, clears 2.28 metres yesterday to qualify for today's high jump final, where he will be joined by the Spaniard, Ortiz (below). Parsons and Reilly, of Britain, failed to qualify



Roads that will be paved with gold

should be better 53min 25sec. But that target may be out of reach as the fastest time on the course was set by Paula Fudge at her best, in 1982.

Previously, the race has been women-only affair but this year's event is being run in conjunction with the 100 miles counties men's (and women's) championship, and as Ingrid Kristiansen proved when setting the world marathon best time of 2:19.41 in 1985, the women's 100 miles, some times (as pace-makers) have their uses.

Heading this year's entries is Andrea Wallace, who declined a place in the European championships in Split partly because of tomorrow's race and the time-consuming selection for Dublin. She could face a uniquely challenge from Julie

Holland, the former English schools cross country champion, who won the Hastings marathon in 74min 17sec in the spring.

Unlikely, because Holland was running the 10,000 metres in Split yesterday evening. Yet he was anxious last weekend not to spoil her pending debut in the 10,000 metres championships, but about the arrival of her entry on tomorrow's race.

Perhaps Holland's desire to seize any opportunity that comes her way is understandable. In the summer of her school days, Holland was the 1986 Commonwealth Games cancelled into his diary, she fell victim of a hit-and-run driver while cycling home from training and was unable to walk without support for the next 12 months.

PRIZE-MONEY totalling £250,000 has attracted some of the world's leading runners to the Sun Life Great Race which starts in Glasgow tomorrow with an 11-mile stage to East Kilbride. The European 5,000 metres record holder, David Moorcroft, the double Olympic marathon champion, Waldemar Cierpinski, of East Germany, and the 10,000 metres champion, Paul Kipkoech, from Kenya, are among the 200 athletes who are taking part.

The 21-stage race is based loosely on *Flanagan's Run*, the fictionalised account of a race across the United States by the author, the Irish national coach, Tom McNab.

The first prize for the overall winner will be £25,000, which will be calculated on a scale of 100 to 1. The £30,000 will be split among the

and other awards, one athlete could win as much as £30,000 — more than the prize money in Britain. The Scot, Alistair Hutton, took home approximately £30,000 when he won the men's ADT London Marathon, but he had to wait for two hours' work compared with the 25 hours the winner of The Great Race will have to complete.

The athletes, who have taken up the challenge, will have to run between seven and 16 miles every day in towns on the roads between Glasgow and London, a distance of 400 miles. Called A Tour de France on legs, the Tour was launched. The Great Race will incorporate many of the gimmicks that are commonplace in cycling, including a yellow jersey for the leader, and a time bonus for the winner. There will be daily television coverage.

on British Satellite Broadcasting (BSB).

Tactics will play an important part in the event. No one will be able to go out and race hard every day. Who will be best suited to the event? It could be a track runner such as Moorcroft, the second quickest 5,000 metres runner of all time behind the world's fastest, a marathoner like Cierpiński, or Michael O'Reilly, the Irishman who was fifth in this year's London Marathon.

Several experts, including the course director, Ian Stewart, are among those tipping the prolific Welsh road runner, Stephen Brace, to win. Brace, a full-time professional, has won the London Marathon twice. He was the winner of the Paris Marathon for the last two years, has a reputation in Britain as the hard man of

UTSUNOMIYA, Japan (Reu- sons with the prolific Jeannie

sons with the prolific Jeannie Longo, of France, who was equally authoritative on track and road.

Hoekstra said: "She is a great prospect but we will be careful with her. She is still young and we will not push her too hard."

Before taking ill, van Moorsel expressed her desire to match Longo's three golds last year.

The course is difficult with a dangerous descent. But I think I can handle it," she said.

Last year's runner-up, Catherine Marsal, of France, the veteran Italian, Maria Canins, third in 1989, and the in-form Karen Holliday, of New Zealand, are among the other leading contenders. Holliday won the points race on the track last Saturday.

s his sights

for the competition. Dighton has already taken out insurance. He has entered the Luton Wheelers trial next Sunday but is hoping that he will not need to

11

ice graduate, it has not taken long for him to calculate that he must cover 12 miles more than Dighton to be certain of going to the top of the all-rounders' table.

The half-day trial has, provisionally, been Butler's weakest event, his best distance being 248 miles in 1988. Tomorrow he is ambitiously scheduling between 278 and 280 miles.

If he has a bad day in the Poole event, Butler will be able to enter the CC Breckland 12-hour, the last qualifying trial

for the competition. Dighton has already taken out insurance. He has entered the Luton Wheelers trial next Sunday but is hoping that he will not need to

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Despite their wretched form in other competitions Northamptonshire can upset the favourites in the NatWest Trophy final

Erratic talents which threaten Lancashire

By ALAN LEE
CRICKET CORRESPONDENT

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE present a sorry sight as they confront the most formidable force in one-day cricket at Lord's today. Their season, both in the championship and the Sunday league, has been an unmitigated disaster. A shocking disciplinary record questions their leadership and they have key players injured. They will probably win easily.

It is not simply that the NatWest Trophy final is prone to outlandish results, though certainly it is. It is more that Northamptonshire are prone to extremes. They have been beaten by an innings five times in the championship, and finished bottom in the Sunday league, but no one seriously regards them as the worst team in the country.

At times, however, they can be the most spineless. When it comes to a battle, they have the white flag permanently prepared; the long haul to safe trenches appears to fill them with horror. And yet, as Lancashire will be acutely aware this morning, they are capable of brilliance.

So far as winning this showpiece of the limited-overs

Lord's details

LANCASHIRE (probable): D P Hughes, G D Mendis, M A Atherton, N H Fairbrother, M Watkinson, W A Alcock, P J W Alton, J Lamb, A Fordham, N A Fenton, W Larkin, D J Capel, R J Bailey, R G Williams, D Ripley, C E L Ambrose, N G Cook, M A Robinson.
Umpires: J W Holder and D R Shepherd.
HOURS OF PLAY: 10.30 start; 80 overs.
TELEVISION COVERAGE: BBC2 15.35, 19.45 and 23.30-00.10 and BBC 16.00-22.30 (with tennis). Tomorrow: Grandstand 10.15-10.20 (with tennis).

season is concerned, they have certain persuasive credentials. They have been so wretched in the remaining competitions that their attention has been focused on the NatWest to the exclusion of all else; and, at least three of their players will have it in mind that a striking performance in this cup final has become a traditionally effective means of booking an England tour place.

Cross though it may be to allow any one-day game to sway a serious debate on Test match potential, it has occurred too many times to be thought a coincidence. If Ted Dexter and company find the mixture irresistible again, the incentive is there for Wayne Larkins, David Capel and even Rob Bailey.

For various reasons, none of the three has featured in an England team since the Caribbean tour. Larkins has already taken a midweek opportunity to impress Graham Gooch, already one of his most ardent supporters, with a double-century against Essex and Bailey made a hundred in the same game. Capel provides the fitness drama, obligatory to any such occasion.

With many a cricketer, breaking a finger on a Monday would be sufficient to discount playing on the Saturday, cup final or not. With Capel, it will take more than a spot of medical advice and a lot of pain to keep him off the field. He will wear a special batting glove and he will have pain-killing injections. No one has ever accused him of surrendering to a lost cause.

Capel's problem is sometimes a surplus of misdirected enthusiasm, which might explain the unattractive words and gestures with which he greeted David Gower's dismissal in the semi-final. This is one of three public disciplinary matters that have afflicted Northamptonshire this year.

How much unrest has gone

on in public is a matter of how many rumours one believes. But it is unquestionable that the dressing-room has not been harmonious and that certain people within the club have favoured a different captain, or a cricket manager, or possibly both.

Allan Lamb's position as captain would have been precarious but for this cup run. Should his side win today, he will be fire-proof. For that to happen, however, he not only has to concern himself with the might of the opposition but with extracting maximum potential from his some of his own erratic talents.

Curtly Ambrose could be a match-winner, he has it in him to influence the game with the ball as much as his Lancashire counterpart, Wasim Akram. Greg Thomas, if he plays, is another with the speed to trouble anyone, but Mark Robinson is reliable and unassuming. A fancy Lamb will be looking to him for an example.

Northamptonshire won their semi-final by one run, despite periodically looking anxious to give it to Hampshire. They will not survive such philanthropic urges

against Lancashire, whose demolition of Middlesex, at the same stage, was awesome.

They have the most consistently prolific top order batting in the country, dashers such as Fowler and Fairbrother complementing the technical authority of Mendis and Atherton. Then, as interesting as anyone playing today, there is Mike Watkinson.

There has hardly been a knock-out game in Lancashire's season in which Watkinson has not played an influential role. He won the gold award in the Benson and Hedges Cup final and his batting put the Middlesex tie beyond doubt. If England are seeking a utility man for this winter, they could do a lot worse.

If this game has anything to do with form, then Lancashire will win. If it has anything to do with romance, then David Hughes, who played when Lancashire first won the competition 20 years ago, will lift the trophy again tonight to complete a unique cup double.

But the slumbering, squabbling sacrificial army which Northamptonshire all too often resemble, still have it in them to add a perverse twist to their moribund season.

AVERAGES OF NATWEST FINALISTS

Lancashire batting and fielding									
	M	I	NO	Runs	HS	Avg	100	50	St
G D Mendis	4	4	2	313	121	156.50	1	2	0
N H Fairbrother	4	4	1	223	88	74.33	1	2	0
M Watkinson	4	4	0	138	60	46.00	0	1	1
C E L Ambrose	4	4	0	91	62	22.75	0	1	1
G D Mendis	4	4	0	115	55	28.75	0	1	1
Wasim Akram	4	4	0	28	14	7.00	0	0	0
P A J DeFranco	4	4	0	3	2	0.75	0	0	0
D J Capel	4	4	0	1	1	0.25	0	0	0
W Larkin	4	4	0	1	1	0.25	0	0	0
W A Alcock	4	4	0	1	1	0.25	0	0	0
M A Robinson	4	4	0	1	1	0.25	0	0	0
W Larkin	4	4	0	1	1	0.25	0	0	0
W A Alcock	4	4	0	1	1	0.25	0	0	0
M A Robinson	4	4	0	1	1	0.25	0	0	0
W Larkin	4	4	0	1	1	0.25	0	0	0
W A Alcock	4	4	0	1	1	0.25	0	0	0
M A Robinson	4	4	0	1	1	0.25	0	0	0
W Larkin	4	4	0	1	1	0.25	0	0	0
W A Alcock	4	4	0	1	1	0.25	0	0	0
M A Robinson	4	4	0	1	1	0.25	0	0	0

NOT BATTED: D P Hughes (4 matches); P J W Alton, P J Martin (2 matches).

Bowling

W A Alcock 38.1 3 147 10 14.70 4-34 -3.85

M A Robinson 18 1 59 4 14.75 2-15 -3.27

P A J DeFranco 36 7 130 5 26.00 3-34 -3.42

D J Capel 41 1 164 6 27.33 3-36 -4.00

W Larkin 41 1 164 6 27.33 3-36 -4.00

W A Alcock 41 1 164 6 27.33 3-36 -4.00

M A Robinson 41 1 164 6 27.33 3-36 -4.00

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Gooch profits again as records tumble and Essex go top

By RICHARD STREETON

NORTHAMPTON (final day of three): Northamptonshire (1st) drew with Essex (5). A SECOND hundred for Graham Gooch and other notable milestones failed to disguise that this was an unsatisfactory first day. A benign pitch, in fact, stifled the captains' initiative throughout a match which was reduced to a batsman's bonanza. Essex, at least, had the consolation of moving to the top of the county championship table.

Essex now stand four points clear of Middlesex, and they remain the only teams, realistically, still in the hunt for the title. Each has three four-day matches left to play. By a quirk of the fixture computer, Essex and Northamptonshire meet again next Friday when the championship is resumed. Middlesex, that day, play Nottinghamshire at Lord's.

For there to be any chance of a result yesterday, the pitch had to deteriorate rapidly but this never looked likely. Northamptonshire, who resumed 135 runs ahead, needed rapid runs in the hope of having themselves time to bowl out their opponents.

Their hopes, though, soon fizzled out. When Lamb early on lifted a catch to long-off, there was no one left who was

Championship table

	M	I	NO	Runs	HS	Avg	100	50	St
Essex (2)	19	8	1	1044	238	54.94	4	10	0
Middlesex (3)	19	8	1	814	224	48.26	3	10	0
Warwickshire (8)	19	8	1	745	199	44.38	2	10	0
Hampshire (6)	20	8	1	622	198	41.50	2	10	0
Surrey (12)	19	8	1	556	187	39.79	2	10	0
Lancashire (4)	20	8	1	512	149	38.60	1	10	0
Worcestershire (11)	19	8	1	508	188	39.69	2	10	0
Surrey (12)	19	4	3	477	175	36.23	1	10	0
Gloucestershire (17)	19	8	1	477	175	36.23	1	10	0
Derbyshire (7)	20	6	6	456	171	34.36	1	10	0
Nottinghamshire (11)	19	4	5	444	155	33.00	1	10	0
Somersetshire (14)	20	3	3	444	155	33.00	1	10	0
Warwickshire (8)	20	3	3	444	155	33.00	1	10	0
Nottinghamshire (11)	20	3	3	444	155	33.00	1	10	0
Kent (15)	20	3	3	444	155	33.00	1	10	0
Northants (5)	20	2	8	444	155	33.00	1	10	0
Northants (5)	20	2	8	444	155	33.00	1	10	0
Gloucestershire (17)	19	3	8	444	155	33.00	1	10	0
Sussex (10)	20	3	7	444	155	33.00	1	10	0

Surrey awarded eight points for batting last in a drawn match in which the scores finished level. Derby 25pts deducted by TCBS for sub-standard pitch.

LPN:im:JD

Braashee for triumphant return

By MANDARIN
(MICHAEL PHILLIPS)

HAVING won the Ormonde Stakes on his seasonal debut at Chester in May, Braashee now looks poised to make a triumphant return to the Roodee today by capturing the Tricity Bendix Sovereign Stakes over the same distance.

A week later, Braashee emulated Mountain Kingdom, who only a year before had become the first horse to win both the Ormonde and the Yorkshire Cup in the same season.

At York, the Alec Stewart-trained four-year-old accounted for Sapience, who was destined to pay him a nice compliment by winning the Princess of Wales Stakes at Newmarket in July.



Stewart brings Braashee back at Chester (230)

Braashee himself was scheduled to contest the Hardwicke Stakes at Royal Ascot but that plan had to be shelved when he jarred a joint while working on firm ground at Newmarket.

His recent gallops there have been on wet ground and the way that he is ready to make a successful comeback on a track which is likely to be the best going in the country following rain in the north-west.

Sudden Victory, Hatcel and Sesame are others who will relish the better going.

Last autumn, Sudden Victory ran Sesame to a neck in the St Simon Stakes at Newbury. They meet on the same terms but Sesame has fared the better recently, finishing a good second to Chamer in the Geoffrey Freer Stakes, again at Newbury.

Hatcel's well-earned promotion to listed race company went disastrously wrong at Goodwood last month when

he refused to let himself down on the very firm ground.

Earlier, he had worked his way up the ladder by winning valuable handicaps at Haydock, Newbury, Royal Ascot and Haydock again. At his best, he could prove troublesome since he will be getting 8lb from Braashee.

Dawn Success, from Clive Brittain's Newmarket yard, appeals as a sporting bet to win the Tricity Bendix Princess Handicap, even though his fine furlongs at York last month is the best that he has done all season.

Having won over six furlongs at Thirsk last autumn, he could easily appreciate today's drop in distance.

Northern Colours, my choice for the Tricity Bendix

President Nursery Handicap, also ran well at the big York meeting when second to Sipsi Fach.

At Sandown today, all eyes will be on Dick Hern's exciting two-year-old, Jahafil, when he has his second race in the BP Beni Graduation Stakes. Judged on the betting at Newbury a fortnight ago, he was expected to make a winning debut in the race that has shed light upon other West Irish inmates such as Minister Son, Unifurrow and Nashwan in recent times.

Jahafil finished only fourth but it was nonetheless a perfectly adequate debut by most standards and I am content to go on him now to retrieve those losses at the expense of the Chester winning, Widyan.

LORD Howard de Walden has decided that Shavian, his high-class runner, will return to David Harris' Brook Stuck at Cheveley, near Newmarket, despite some tempting offers from the United States.

Shavian, a half-brother to the Gold Cup winner Pagan, will be sent to the States to share with Lord Howard retaining stakes. Shavian will begin stud duties next year.

The three-year-old, trained by

Henry Cecil, won the St James's Palace Stakes at Royal Ascot in June and then gave an exhilarating display of front-running to beat Candy Glen by 2½ lengths in the Bechevaler Celebration Mile at Goodwood last Saturday.

After the Goodwood race, Lord Howard expressed his interest in Shavian taking in the Queen Elizabeth II Stakes at Ascot on September 29, followed by an attempt on the

Breeders' Cup Mile at Belmont Park, New York, on October 5. Shavian is expected to fulfil both those engagements in an attempt to establish his position as the top three-year-old miler in Europe before being retired.

Barry Hills, the Manton trainer, completed a 7½-mile double at Chester yesterday with Comorant Creek, ridden by apprentice Gyles Parkin, and Arokat, the mount of Pat Eddery. Both started favourite.

RIPON

Selections

By Mandarin

2.15 Sharp Times. 2.45 Superstars. 3.30 Sparman. 3.50 Vintage Only. 4.25 Mags. Girt. 4.55 Dress Parade.

By Our Newmarket Correspondent

2.45 Shannon Express. 3.20 Sparman. 3.50 Orta Gold. 4.25 Duddy. 4.55 DRESS PARADE (nap).

Going: good Draw: no advantage SIS

2.15 SEE RUSTY APPRENTICE HANDICAP (25.50; 6f) (20 runners)

1 4315 FOR REAL (25.50) J. E. Thompson 5-10-10 G. Foster 1
2 4320 BURNING (25.50) M. E. Thompson 5-10-10 J. Marshall (7) 13
3 4325 VINTAGE ONLY (25.50) M. E. Thompson 5-10-10 J. Marshall (7) 13
4 4330 SHARP TIMES (25.50) J. E. Thompson 5-10-10 G. Foster 1
5 4335 VINTAGE ONLY (25.50) M. E. Thompson 5-10-10 J. Marshall (7) 13
6 4340 SHARP TIMES (25.50) J. E. Thompson 5-10-10 G. Foster 1
7 4345 VINTAGE ONLY (25.50) M. E. Thompson 5-10-10 J. Marshall (7) 13
8 4350 SHARP TIMES (25.50) J. E. Thompson 5-10-10 G. Foster 1
9 4355 VINTAGE ONLY (25.50) M. E. Thompson 5-10-10 J. Marshall (7) 13
10 4360 SHARP TIMES (25.50) J. E. Thompson 5-10-10 G. Foster 1
11 4365 VINTAGE ONLY (25.50) M. E. Thompson 5-10-10 J. Marshall (7) 13
12 4370 SHARP TIMES (25.50) J. E. Thompson 5-10-10 G. Foster 1
13 4375 VINTAGE ONLY (25.50) M. E. Thompson 5-10-10 J. Marshall (7) 13
14 4380 SHARP TIMES (25.50) J. E. Thompson 5-10-10 G. Foster 1
15 4385 VINTAGE ONLY (25.50) M. E. Thompson 5-10-10 J. Marshall (7) 13
16 4390 SHARP TIMES (25.50) J. E. Thompson 5-10-10 G. Foster 1
17 4395 VINTAGE ONLY (25.50) M. E. Thompson 5-10-10 J. Marshall (7) 13
18 4400 SHARP TIMES (25.50) J. E. Thompson 5-10-10 G. Foster 1
19 4405 VINTAGE ONLY (25.50) M. E. Thompson 5-10-10 J. Marshall (7) 13
20 4410 SHARP TIMES (25.50) J. E. Thompson 5-10-10 G. Foster 1

2.45 SHANNON EXPRESS (25.50; 6f) (20 runners)

1 4315 FOR REAL (25.50) J. E. Thompson 5-10-10 G. Foster 1
2 4320 BURNING (25.50) M. E. Thompson 5-10-10 J. Marshall (7) 13
3 4325 VINTAGE ONLY (25.50) M. E. Thompson 5-10-10 J. Marshall (7) 13
4 4330 SHARP TIMES (25.50) J. E. Thompson 5-10-10 G. Foster 1
5 4335 VINTAGE ONLY (25.50) M. E. Thompson 5-10-10 J. Marshall (7) 13
6 4340 SHARP TIMES (25.50) J. E. Thompson 5-10-10 G. Foster 1
7 4345 VINTAGE ONLY (25.50) M. E. Thompson 5-10-10 J. Marshall (7) 13
8 4350 SHARP TIMES (25.50) J. E. Thompson 5-10-10 G. Foster 1
9 4355 VINTAGE ONLY (25.50) M. E. Thompson 5-10-10 J. Marshall (7) 13
10 4360 SHARP TIMES (25.50) J. E. Thompson 5-10-10 G. Foster 1
11 4365 VINTAGE ONLY (25.50) M. E. Thompson 5-10-10 J. Marshall (7) 13
12 4370 SHARP TIMES (25.50) J. E. Thompson 5-10-10 G. Foster 1
13 4375 VINTAGE ONLY (25.50) M. E. Thompson 5-10-10 J. Marshall (7) 13
14 4380 SHARP TIMES (25.50) J. E. Thompson 5-10-10 G. Foster 1
15 4385 VINTAGE ONLY (25.50) M. E. Thompson 5-10-10 J. Marshall (7) 13
16 4390 SHARP TIMES (25.50) J. E. Thompson 5-10-10 G. Foster 1
17 4395 VINTAGE ONLY (25.50) M. E. Thompson 5-10-10 J. Marshall (7) 13
18 4400 SHARP TIMES (25.50) J. E. Thompson 5-10-10 G. Foster 1
19 4405 VINTAGE ONLY (25.50) M. E. Thompson 5-10-10 J. Marshall (7) 13
20 4410 SHARP TIMES (25.50) J. E. Thompson 5-10-10 G. Foster 1

3.30 SPARMAN (25.50; 6f) (20 runners)

1 4315 FOR REAL (25.50) J. E. Thompson 5-10-10 G. Foster 1
2 4320 BURNING (25.50) M. E. Thompson 5-10-10 J. Marshall (7) 13
3 4325 VINTAGE ONLY (25.50) M. E. Thompson 5-10-10 J. Marshall (7) 13
4 4330 SHARP TIMES (25.50) J. E. Thompson 5-10-10 G. Foster 1
5 4335 VINTAGE ONLY (25.50) M. E. Thompson 5-10-10 J. Marshall (7) 13
6 4340 SHARP TIMES (25.50) J. E. Thompson 5-10-10 G. Foster 1
7 4345 VINTAGE ONLY (25.50) M. E. Thompson 5-10-10 J. Marshall (7) 13
8 4350 SHARP TIMES (25.50) J. E. Thompson 5-10-10 G. Foster 1
9 4355 VINTAGE ONLY (25.50) M. E. Thompson 5-10-10 J. Marshall (7) 13
10 4360 SHARP TIMES (25.50) J. E. Thompson 5-10-10 G. Foster 1
11 4365 VINTAGE ONLY (25.50) M. E. Thompson 5-10-10 J. Marshall (7) 13
12 4370 SHARP TIMES (25.50) J. E. Thompson 5-10-10 G. Foster 1
13 4375 VINTAGE ONLY (25.50) M. E. Thompson 5-10-10 J. Marshall (7) 13
14 4380 SHARP TIMES (25.50) J. E. Thompson 5-10-10 G. Foster 1
15 4385 VINTAGE ONLY (25.50) M. E. Thompson 5-10-10 J. Marshall (7) 13
16 4390 SHARP TIMES (25.50) J. E. Thompson 5-10-10 G. Foster 1
17 4395 VINTAGE ONLY (25.50) M. E. Thompson 5-10-10 J. Marshall (7) 13
18 4400 SHARP TIMES (25.50) J. E. Thompson 5-10-10 G. Foster 1
19 4405 VINTAGE ONLY (25.50) M. E. Thompson 5-10-10 J. Marshall (7) 13
20 4410 SHARP TIMES (25.50) J. E. Thompson 5-10-10 G. Foster 1

3.50 VINTAGE ONLY (25.50; 6f) (20 runners)

1 4315 FOR REAL (25.50) J. E. Thompson 5-10-10 G. Foster 1
2 4320 BURNING (25.50) M. E. Thompson 5-10-10 J. Marshall (7) 13
3 4325 VINTAGE ONLY (25.50) M. E. Thompson 5-10-10 J. Marshall (7) 13
4 4330 SHARP TIMES (25.50) J. E. Thompson 5-10-10 G. Foster 1
5 4335 VINTAGE ONLY (25.50) M. E. Thompson 5-10-10 J. Marshall (7) 13
6 4340 SHARP TIMES (25.50) J. E. Thompson 5-10-10 G. Foster 1
7 4345 VINTAGE ONLY (25.50) M. E. Thompson 5-10-10 J. Marshall (7) 13
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11 4365 VINTAGE ONLY (25.50) M. E. Thompson 5-10-10 J. Marshall (7) 13
12 4370 SHARP TIMES (25.50) J. E. Thompson 5-10-10 G. Foster 1
13 4375 VINTAGE ONLY (25.50) M. E. Thompson 5-10-10 J. Marshall (7) 13
14 4380 SHARP TIMES (25.50) J. E. Thompson 5-10-10 G. Foster 1
15 4385 VINTAGE ONLY (25.50) M. E. Thompson 5-10-10 J. Marshall (7) 13
16 4390 SHARP TIMES (25.50) J. E. Thompson 5-10-10 G. Foster 1
17 4395 VINTAGE ONLY (25.50) M. E. Thompson 5-10-10 J. Marshall (7) 13
18 4400 SHARP TIMES (25.50) J. E. Thompson 5-10-10 G. Foster 1
19 4405 VINTAGE ONLY (25.50) M. E. Thompson 5-10-10 J. Marshall (7) 13
20 4410 SHARP TIMES (25.50) J. E. Thompson 5-10-10 G. Foster 1

4.25 F A HUMBERTON AND PARTNERS HANDICAP (25.50; 1m) (14)

1 4315 FOR REAL (25.50) J. E. Thompson 5-10-10 G. Foster 1
2 4320 BURNING (25.50) M. E. Thompson 5-10-10 J. Marshall (7) 13
3 4325 VINTAGE ONLY (25.50) M. E. Thompson 5-10-10 J. Marshall (7) 13
4 4330 SHARP TIMES (25.50) J. E. Thompson 5-10-10 G. Foster 1
5 4335 VINTAGE ONLY (25.50) M. E. Thompson 5-10-10 J. Marshall (7) 13
6 4340 SHARP TIMES (25.50) J. E. Thompson 5-10-10 G. Foster 1
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11 4365 VINTAGE ONLY (25.50) M. E. Thompson 5-10-10 J. Marshall (7) 13
12 4370 SHARP TIMES (25.50) J. E. Thompson 5-10-10 G. Foster 1
13 4375 VINTAGE ONLY (25.50) M. E. Thompson 5-10-10 J. Marshall (7) 13
14 4380 SHARP TIMES (25.50) J. E. Thompson 5-10-10 G. Foster 1

4.55 EAGLE STAR MAIDEN STAKES (3-Y-O; 25.50; 1m) (12)

1 4315 FOR REAL (25.50) J. E. Thompson 5-10-10 G. Foster 1
2 4320 BURNING (25.50) M. E. Thompson 5-10-10 J. Marshall (7) 13
3 4325 VINTAGE ONLY (25.50) M. E. Thompson 5-10-10 J. Marshall (7) 13
4 4330 SHARP TIMES (25.50) J. E. Thompson 5-10-10 G. Foster 1
5 4335 VINTAGE ONLY (25.50) M. E. Thompson 5-10-10 J. Marshall (7) 13
6 4340 SHARP TIMES (25.50) J. E. Thompson 5-10-10 G. Foster 1
7 4345 VINTAGE ONLY (25.50) M. E. Thompson 5-10-10 J. Marshall (7) 13
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10 4360 SHARP TIMES (25.50) J. E. Thompson 5-10-10 G. Foster 1
11 4365 VINTAGE ONLY (25.50) M. E. Thompson 5-10-10 J. Marshall (7) 13
12 4370 SHARP TIMES (25.50) J. E. Thompson 5-10-10 G. Foster 1

5.05 OPTIMA FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT SELLING GUARANTEED SWEETSTAKES (3-Y-O; 25.50; 1m) (18)

1 4315 FOR REAL (25.50) J. E. Thompson 5-10-10 G. Foster 1
2 4320 BURNING (25.50) M. E. Thompson 5-10-10 J. Marshall (7) 13
3 4325 VINTAGE ONLY (25.50) M. E. Thompson 5-10-10 J. Marshall (7) 13
4 4330 SHARP TIMES (25.50) J. E. Thompson 5-10-10 G. Foster 1
5 4335 VINTAGE ONLY (25.50) M. E. Thompson 5-10-10 J. Marshall (7) 13
6 4340 SHARP TIMES (25.50) J. E. Thompson 5-10-10 G. Foster 1
7 4345 VINTAGE ONLY (25.50) M. E. Thompson 5-10-10 J. Marshall (7) 13
8 4350 SHARP TIMES (25.50) J. E. Thompson 5-10-10 G. Foster 1
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14 4380 SHARP TIMES (25.50) J. E. Thompson 5-10-10 G. Foster 1
15 4385 VINTAGE ONLY (25.50) M. E. Thompson 5-10-10 J. Marshall (7) 13
16 4390 SHARP TIMES (25.50) J. E. Thompson 5-10-10 G. Foster 1
17 4395 VINTAGE ONLY (25.50) M. E. Thompson 5-10-10 J. Marshall (7) 13
18 4400 SHARP TIMES (25.50) J. E. Thompson 5-10-10 G. Foster 1

5.35 ABERGAVENNY CLAIMING HURDLE (25.50; 2m) (14)

1 4315 FOR REAL (25.50) J. E. Thompson 5-10-10 G. Foster 1
2 4320 BURNING (25.50) M. E. Thompson 5-10-10 J. Marshall (7) 13
3 4325 VINTAGE ONLY (25.50) M. E. Thompson 5-10-10 J. Marshall (7) 13
4 4330 SHARP TIMES (25.50) J. E. Thompson 5-10-10 G. Foster 1
5 4335 VINTAGE ONLY (25.50) M. E. Thompson 5-10-10 J. Marshall (7) 13
6 4340 SHARP TIMES (25.50) J. E. Thompson 5-10-10 G. Foster 1
7 4345 VINTAGE ONLY (25.50) M. E. Thompson 5-10-10 J. Marshall (7) 13
8 4350 SHARP TIMES (25.50) J. E. Thompson 5-10-10 G. Foster 1
9 4355 VINTAGE ONLY (25.50) M. E. Thompson 5-10-10 J. Marshall (7) 13
10 4360 SHARP TIMES (25.50) J. E. Thompson 5-10-10 G. Foster 1
11 4365 VINTAGE ONLY (25.50) M. E. Thompson 5-10-10 J. Marshall (7) 13
12 4370 SHARP TIMES (25.50) J. E. Thompson 5-10-10 G. Foster 1
13 4375 VINTAGE ONLY (25.50) M. E. Thompson 5-10-10 J. Marshall (7) 13
14 4380 SHARP TIMES (25.50) J. E. Thompson 5-10-10 G. Foster 1

5.55 TARRANTON HANDICAP HURDLE (25.50; 2m) (14)

1 4315 FOR REAL (25.50) J. E. Thompson 5-10-10 G. Foster 1
2 4320 BURNING (25.50) M. E. Thompson 5-10-10 J. Marshall (7) 13
3 4325 VINTAGE ONLY (25.50) M. E. Thompson 5-10-10 J. Marshall (7) 13
4 4330 SHARP TIMES (25.50) J. E. Thompson 5-10-10 G. Foster 1
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11 4365 VINTAGE ONLY (25.50) M. E. Thompson 5-10-10 J. Marshall (7) 13
12 4370 SHARP TIMES (25.50) J. E. Thompson 5-10-10 G. Foster 1
13 4375 VINTAGE ONLY (25.50) M. E. Thompson 5-10-10 J. Marshall (7) 13
14 4380 SHARP TIMES (25.50) J. E. Thompson 5-10-10 G. Foster 1

6.05 TARRANTON HANDICAP HURDLE (25.50; 2m) (14)

1 4315 FOR REAL (25.50) J. E. Thompson 5-10-10 G. Foster 1
2 4320 BURNING (25.50) M. E. Thompson 5-10-10 J. Marshall (7) 13
3 4325 VINTAGE ONLY (25.50) M. E. Thompson 5-10-10 J. Marshall (7) 13
4 4330 SHARP TIMES (25.50) J. E. Thompson 5-10-10 G. Foster 1
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13 4375 VINTAGE ONLY (25.50) M. E. Thompson 5-10-10 J. Marshall (7) 13
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13 4375 VINTAGE ONLY (25.50) M. E. Thompson 5-10-10 J. Marshall (7) 13
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13 4375 VINTAGE ONLY (25.50) M. E. Thompson 5-10-10 J. Marshall (7) 13
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7.05 TARRANTON HANDICAP HURDLE (25.50; 2m) (14)

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2 4320 BURNING (25.50) M. E. Thompson 5-10-10 J. Marshall (7) 13
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4 4330 SHARP TIMES (25.50) J. E. Thompson 5-10-10 G. Foster 1
5 4335 VINTAGE ONLY (25.50) M. E. Thompson 5-10-10 J. Marshall (7) 13
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12 4370 SHARP TIMES (25.50) J. E. Thompson 5-10-10 G. Foster 1
13 4375 VINTAGE ONLY (25.50) M. E. Thompson 5-10-10 J. Marshall (7) 13
14 4380 SHARP TIMES (25.50) J. E. Thompson 5-10-10 G. Foster 1

7.35 TARRANTON HANDICAP HURDLE (25.50; 2m) (14)

1 4315 FOR REAL (25.50) J. E. Thompson 5-10-10 G. Foster 1
2 4320 BURNING (25.50) M. E. Thompson 5-10-10 J. Marshall (7) 13
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13 4375 VINTAGE ONLY (25.50) M. E. Thompson 5-10-10 J. Marshall (7) 13
14 4380 SHARP TIMES (25.50) J. E. Thompson 5-10-10 G. Foster 1

7.55 TARRANTON HANDICAP HURDLE (25.50; 2m) (14)

1 4315 FOR REAL (25.50) J. E. Thompson 5-10-10 G. Foster 1
2 4320 BURNING (25.50) M. E. Thompson 5-10-10 J. Marshall (7) 13
3 4325 VINTAGE ONLY (25.50) M. E. Thompson 5-10-10 J. Marshall (7) 13
4 4330 SHARP TIMES (25.50) J. E. Thompson 5-10-10 G. Foster 1
5 4335 VINT

BARRY PICKTHALL, YACHTING CORRESPONDENT



Seeking the right balance: Annie Lucas competing at the national Europe class championships in the Solent and hoping to represent Britain in the first women's single-handed Olympic event in 1992

Top women take to Europe for 1992

A small group of women are forgoing their 9-5, 470s, National 12s and university racing teams to sail the Europe dinghy and win the first single-handed Olympic gold for women in 1992. They will have to take on a new lifestyle of dedication and sacrifice and the small, lively Europe will be their workplace for the next two years.

Last weekend marked the Europe national championship at Hamble. For most it was a typical weekend of six races, each longer than an average marathon. Shirley Robertson and Tracey Jordan, the two favourites, are in their early twenties, single-minded, and physically fit.

By 1992 they will be as finely tuned as any athlete, and possess an impressive armoury of tactical moves and counter-moves, plus an ingrained knowledge of every

whim of tide and windshift off the shores of Barcelona. They will need a killer instinct because sailing, as Jordan says, "like chess with physical pain".

Both women are prepared to abandon social lives, interrupt their careers and fall into debt with banks and families for the chance to represent Britain in 1992. To win a medal they know that they will have to sail every day and put in hours of muscle-building at the gym.

Jordan plans to take time out of her medical studies. She already misses doctors' mess parties on Thursday nights to be fit for the weekend's racing.

Robertson is a lithe blonde with a sparkling smile and gentle Scottish lilt. She is determined not simply to win the British trials, but to bring home a medal. Once a fortnight, sometimes more often, she makes the eight-hour over-

Commitment will win Olympic medals for a pioneering group, competing in single-handed racing for the first time, Sarah Norbury writes

night journey from Glasgow to the south coast to fight for a place in international championships. Both she and Jordan are in Spain this weekend at the pre-Olympic regatta.

The single-mindedness of these women can seem extreme. Annie Lucas, a Wren posted to Naples, flies back to Britain for every qualifying race. On weekends in Italy, she waves off her friends to Pompeii or Pisa and sets off alone, out to sea, for strenuous hours of tacking, gybing and hiking out. When asked if she ever questions her choice, she replies that she is goal-driven and that the Olympics are sailing's ultimate lure. This

winter Lucas will be posted back to Gosport, where her training will be pushed into overdrive with the help of her fiancé, Steve Cockerill, the overall winner at Hamble.

The women's national champion is Kay Hedgcock, at 26 a veteran of Olympic campaign. The table at the Europe championship at Hamble groaned with glittering prizes, but Hedgcock was off before the presentation, en route for Spain and the Mediterranean championships.

The fleet of more than 30 Olympic hopefuls is settling down into distinct groups: those who have a chance and those who will keep competing for fun. Some

have dropped out of the running due to career commitments and others are not prepared to put intolerable strain on relationships.

The worries include getting time off for overseas regattas, lonely drives to frozen Rutland Water for winter training, coping with the expense, and making the choice between a new hull and a new car. There is also the physical unpleasantness of being out at sea, upside down, cut and bruised.

The ability to take the strain separates the ambitious from the also-rans. One stormy weekend as I sat in Hayling Island Sailing Club bar nursing a fear of drowning and a bump on the head, administered by the ridiculously low boom (it takes the suppleness of a limbo dancer to traverse a Europe in a tack or gybe), in bounced a freezing and dripping Jordan. She was new to the class and had just made her first foray across the

notorious Chichester sandbank. "I capsized 15 times," she said. She has the right attitude. A couple of months later she won every race but one in the 1990 British Eurolymp.

"What is the No. 1 factor that will win the Europe gold medal?" I asked Rod Carr, the Royal Yachting Association (RYA) chief coach. "Commitment," he replied. The RYA can provide coaching, advice on the fastest gear, help with boat tuning, seminars on tactics, fitness testing and a certain amount of grant aid, but it is an individual commitment, harnessed to a natural talent, that will make best use of all these factors.

To the club sailor this level of commitment may seem admirable, extraordinary or horrifying, but for these women, for the next two years, it will be their way of life.

BRIEFING

Classic mix at St Tropez

CLASSIC yachts and state-of-the-art maxis will race in a mixture of pagentry and sport at La Nioulargue, the French regatta which celebrates its tenth anniversary this year. From September 26 to October 7, the harbour and streets of St Tropez will be full of yachting enthusiasts.

Ten years ago, La Nioulargue was simply a small navigation buoy a dozen miles out of St Tropez which two skippers decide to race to, rather than spend another afternoon sampling Mount Gay rum.

It has grown to become a regatta that rivals Antigua Race Week or Cowes. This year, for the first time, Rothmans will sponsor the maxis trophy. The British entry from the round-the-world race will compete in Europe for the last time this year before leaving for Australia and the Far East.

Moor for less

The boating industry is examining the number and cost of moorings. A working party from the British Marine Industries Federation, the Royal Yachting Association and the Inland Waterways Association is anxious that the lack of suitable moorings might end the boom in boat sales.

Paul Wagstaff, the BMIF chief executive, says: "As a first step, the group is conducting a survey aiming to determine the existing situation with a view to convincing government of the need to encourage the provision of more and better facilities."

Sailing free

The Westerly sea school says it can cover sailing costs with a new scheme for boat owners. Ian Steel, Westerly's managing director, says: "We can supply and manage a Westerly which could provide cost-free sailing for the owner. By marketing the yacht for charter and sailing courses throughout the year, it would be possible to offset all the annual running and maintenance costs and still leave a surplus for the owner."

Mr Steel can be contacted on 0703 454865 for more details.

Personality class

The Royal Lympington Yacht Club will host the national match-racing championship finals, sponsored by James Capel, on Saturday, September 22. The 18 competitors are a mixture of invited personalities, such as Tim Law and David Bedford, plus the winners and runners-up of the regional qualifying heats.

The races will be sailed in Beneteau First Class 8s. With the 1992 Olympic finals of the Soling class to be run as match-racing for the first time, these national championships have increasing significance.

Face that launched 200 ships

Adrian Morgan meets an engineer who gave up his career to make boats in the shed at the bottom of his garden

PETER WARD carves a solid living out of scraps of timber, old dance floors, broken pianos and Victorian skirting boards. Two years ago he turned his hobby of making half models of yacht hulls into a full-time job.

With Radio 4 for company, the former engineer works in his shed at the bottom of the garden, often for eight hours a day, and his output is limited to two models a week at most.

A small routing machine and bandsaw, a row of chisels, glass paper and polish are his principal tools.

Born into a nautical family, and a descendant of the great marine artist John Ward of Hull, Mr Ward is obsessed by ships and the sea. He has cruised and raced for many years and has owned a variety of wooden craft.

"I was just old enough to recall the smell of Stockholm tar and to have witnessed the building of beautiful wooden vessels in draughty old tin sheds filled with sweet-smelling wood shavings by wooded river creeks," he says.

Mr Ward's craft is based on a tradition stretching back 200 years to the days when boat builders worked not from lines, but from offsets taken from half models. Each would be carved to the satisfaction of the client, fisherman or merchant, and subtly worked until it looked right from every angle. Thus no two craft were alike, each reflecting the owner's prejudices.

Unlettered and self-taught as these businessmen were, it



Carving out a career: Peter Ward working on another model in his garden shed

was possibly easier for both sides to assess the final product by eye. The famous black schooner, America, was probably built this way and even the greatest 19th century exponents of naval architecture such as Nat Herreshoff preferred to work from models.

Mr Ward is not unique in his craft. Over the Channel, the revival of interest in traditional boats has encouraged a number of French modelers. Mr Ward, however, is one of a handful who manage to combine accuracy with that indefinable quality of "rightness". This has much to do with the choice of woods and the quality of finish and, strange though it may seem, it is the imperfections which gives the work artistry.

His favourite wood is Cuban mahogany. He has a magnificent piece, which came from the Classification Room of the old Lloyd's building in London when it was demolished in 1969, stacked in his shed in Poole. It was once part of a table on which surveyors would plan plans of new ships and around

which they would gather before giving their approval.

Starting with the line plans, culled from various sources - including original designs where possible - Ward will "blow" these up to the required scale and trace the half waterlines on to templates.

Once chosen, the timber is machined to the exact thickness between the waterlines and bandsawed to the correct shape. "It's going to be a painted model. I use jelutong, a stable Malaysian wood they use for pattern-making."

The laminations are glued together and a chisel taken to the edges until a rough shape emerges. Painstaking rubbing down and application of strokes, deck gear, bowsprit, mast, boom and other details are the prelude to a final polish before the board is mounted on a mahogany back-board, with the vessel's details stencilled in gold-leaf or painted.

Mr Ward's collection comprises about 200 commissions, the most popular being the great pre-war yachts, the J's and America's Cup chal-

lengers and defenders such as Genesta, Ranger, Endeavour, Reliance and, of course, the most successful and charismatic of them all, the Prince of Wales's old yacht, Britannia.

"No vessel is too small or too large. I have modelled everything from the little Dublin Bay A-class, designed by William Fife, to the 1983 America's Cup winner Australia II," he says.

"It's difficult to strike the right price. It depends on size and how much work is involved. My charge for a large one like Britannia would be about £300. Special commissions would be more, as I have to prepare drawings."

He knows of some dealers in France who have little difficulty marking up prices by more than 100 per cent. Until word of his skill reaches a wider audience, Mr Ward relies on galleries and dealers, although he hopes eventually to deal directly with his customers.

For details: Peter Ward, 31 St Mary's Road, Poole, Dorset, BH15 2LH (0202 672823).

Adrian Morgan finds the Westerly Typhoon 37 safe, but slippery, on a boat test

Safe, solid and comfortable are the adjectives usually used to describe Westerly cruising yachts. Unfortunately they all seem to imply one thing: slow. Not necessarily so, particularly in the case of the Typhoon 37, an addition to a range that includes 12 models, from 28ft to 48ft.

The yacht builder who brought us the classic 26ft Centaur more than 20 years ago - 2,500 were sold before production ended in 1980 - employed Ed Dubois to draw the Typhoon's lines. Mr Dubois cut his teeth in the white heat of racing, but now concentrates on luxury yachts and has designed many of Westerly's range.

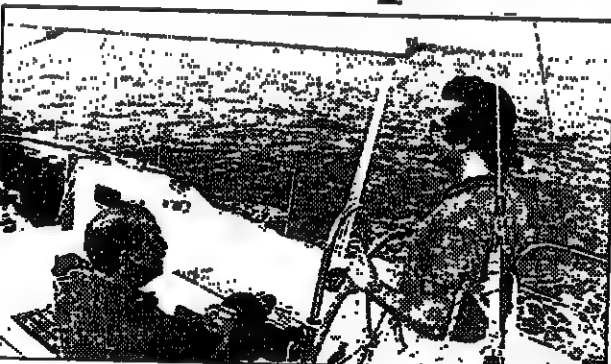
The hull he drew eschews any racing rule formula in the interests of performance and accommodation. "A slippery hull without losing any of Westerly's trademarks," says Peter Baines, Westerly's experienced demonstrator. He is convinced she will appeal, "to those people who don't think a cruiser can be fast". He also hopes she will be quick under Channel Handicap.

Clean lined with its 6ft draught fin and bulb keel, containing 2,750kg of the total 7,470kg displacement, the hull is intrinsically fast. Sail area is a generous 44.6m² set on a sweep spreader 7/8 rig that needs no running backstays. Mr Baines, a seasoned Olympic class Soling crew, planned the ergonomic siting of the four self-tailing winches, turning blocks and stoppers, two banks of which handle all the control lines atop the coachroof.

The Typhoon quickly revealed herself as well-balanced and finger light on the large, leather-covered wheel. Ahead, astern and in tight corners she behaved precisely and predictably, her large spade rudder more than adequate without being heavy.

The wheel is sited right aft, leaving most of the cockpit for crew. The mainsheet is within easy reach of the helmsman - essential for two-handed sailing on a fractionally rigged

A solid cruiser, but with sparkle



The Typhoon 37: "It will appeal to those people who don't think a cruiser can be fast"

yacht with such a large mainsail.

Upwind in about 14 knots of breeze the Typhoon soon reached the six knots her Volvo 28hp diesel had hitherto been achieving. As the wind freshened she picked up her skirts, punching through the waves, the log quickly recording more than seven knots. Under full main and roller furling jib the wheel needed only a gentle hand.

Westerlys have an enduring quality that rejects gimmickry for the tried and tested. "More than 50 per cent of my customers come back for more of the same, only bigger," Mr Baines says. After 26 years and more than 12,000 yachts, Westerly still uses non-slip deck paint - almost a trademark in a marina full of lookalikes. It gives excellent grip and can readily be

touched up when scuffed. The Typhoon abounds with other sensible features, such as harness points either side of the companionway and by the wheel; the light switch just inside the hatch, wired directly to the twin batteries, for those fumbling midnight arrivals; and the emergency tiller which slots over the sturdy stainless rudder post under the curving, teak-laid helmsman's seat.

The Typhoon would suit a couple with two or three children, although she can pack eight people at a pinch. Forward there are three berths, a single and a "cross-over" double beneath, with a little washbasin to starboard and heads (no shower) to port.

Ventilation is impressive, five hatches and two opening ports providing good through-draught in a yacht that could



The Typhoon 37: "It will appeal to those people who don't think a cruiser can be fast"

quite happily cruise the Mediterranean.

Massive stainless steel chainplates, firmly anchored into the yacht's structure, attest to the strength of the Lloyd's-approved hull.

The chart table takes a folded Admiralty chart. It is smaller than a dedicated navigator might prefer, but he would be impressed by the switch panel. This includes a very useful battery-state indicator. The gallery opposite has a fridge and double sink, with footpump in case the pressurised hot and cold water system fails.

The aft quarter of the yacht contains the huge main cabin, with its shower room to starboard, though not connected. The black buttoned vinyl sofa to port seemed a little out of place, and it is debatable how often it would be used but the cabin is extensive, if lacking in headroom. Stowage is also limited.

From her bathing platform to her sturdy bow rollers the Typhoon combines solid British yacht building with continental flair. "She's not only built for the good times," Mr Baines says, "but won't let you down in mid-Channel in a full gale." At £63,990 ex-VAT, she compares favourably with anything continental builders can throw at our shores.

WESTERLY TYPHOON

Length overall: 11.38m (37.3ft)
Length waterline: 9.71m (31.9ft)
Beam: 3.75m (12.3ft)
Draught: 1.83m (6ft)
Displacement: 7,470kg (16,050lbs)
Engine: Volvo Penta 28hp (43hp option)
Berths: 7/8
Sail area: 63m² (678.2 sq ft)
Builder: Ed Dubois
Designer: Ed Dubois
Builder: Westerly Yachts Limited (Sales), Hamble
Point Marina, Hamble, Southampton, Hants SO3 5NB (0703 455233)
Price: £63,990 (ex VAT)

City Editor John Bell

BUSINESS

BCCI bankers seek retrial

FIVE officers of the Bank of Credit and Commerce International (BCCI) and a Colombian businessman found guilty of money laundering have requested a new trial, claiming jury misconduct (AFP reports from Tampa, Florida).

The six filed the request on Tuesday, claiming US district judge William Terrell Hodges should have done more to determine whether jurors had been influenced by an incident that led to one of the jurors being dismissed. The juror was dismissed after calling a telephone number of a reputed member of the Medellín cocaine cartel, which he found in a notebook introduced as evidence.

The five officers of BCCI, which is based in Luxembourg, and the Colombian were convicted on July 29 of laundering \$14 million in drug profits.

They face prison terms of between 10 and 30 years, possibly without parole. Sentencing is scheduled for October 3.

The bankers are Ian Howard and Sibt Hassan of BCCI's Paris branch; Amjad Awan and Akbar Bilgrami of BCCI's Miami branch; and Seyid Ahab Hussain, who worked in Panama for the bank. The Colombian is Rudolf Ambrecht, an aircraft broker.

Another loss for Standard

Standard Chartered Bank Australia reported a net loss of Aus\$49.05 million (£20.9 million) in the six months to June 30. The result compares with a Aus\$16.1 million loss for the corresponding period last year and a 1989 full-year loss of Aus\$54.18 million.

Australian Ratings recently downgraded the bank's credit rating, lowering its short-term rate from A1 to A2 and its long-term rate from A minus to BBB plus. The pre-tax result and abnormal items was Aus\$13.65 million, against Aus\$28.55 million previously.

Ervin Knox, the managing director of SCB, said provisions for bad and doubtful debts totalled Aus\$8.15 million (Aus\$3.2 million). An interim dividend was not declared.

THE POUND

US dollar 1.8830 (-0.0280)
W German mark 2.9833 (-0.0253)
Exchange Index 95.0 (-1.2)

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 Share 1893.6 (+5.7)
FT-SE 100 2162.8 (+9.2)
New York Dow Jones 2902.72 (+9.40)
Tokyo Nikkei Ave 2597.37 (+308.41)

Closing Prices ... Page 35

Major indices and major changes Page 33

INTEREST RATES

London: Bank Base: 15%
3-month interbank 14 1/2-14 3/4%
3-month eligible bill 14 1/2-14 3/4%
US Prime Rate 10 1/2%
Federal Funds 8 1/2%
3-month Treasury bill 7.40-7.39%
30-year bonds 9 1/2-9 1/4%

CURRENCIES

London: Bank Base: 15%
3-month interbank 14 1/2-14 3/4%
3-month eligible bill 14 1/2-14 3/4%
US Prime Rate 10 1/2%
Federal Funds 8 1/2%
3-month Treasury bill 7.40-7.39%
30-year bonds 9 1/2-9 1/4%

GOLD

London Fixing: AM \$388.10 pm \$387.75
Close \$385.00-385.50 (£203.50-204.00)
New York: Comex \$384.30-384.80

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent (Oct) ... \$25.40/bbl (\$26.05)
Dated latest trading price

TOURIST RATES

Australia \$ 21.70
Austria Sch 20.40
Belgium Fr 67.80
Canada Cdn 2.14
Denmark Kr 11.85
Finland Mk 5.94
France Fr 10.35
Germany DM 2.30
Greece Dr 363
Hong Kong S 15.30
Ireland Ir 1.08
Italy Lit 202
Japan Yen 200
Norway Nkr 11.28
Portugal Esc 200
South Africa Rand 7.50
Spain Ptas 166.64
Sweden Kr 10.36
Switzerland Fr 2.20
Turkey Lira 2.25
USA \$ 1.65
Yugoslavia Dina 25.50

Rates for small denomination bank only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to travellers cheques.
Retail Price Index: 128.8 (Aug)

Bond denies receiving 'secret fee' for Rothwells role

FROM BRIAN BUCHANAN IN SYDNEY

ALAN BOND, the troubled Australian businessman, has protested a finding that he received Aus\$16 million (£6.8 million) for his part in the rescue of Rothwells, the former merchant bank, in October 1987.

Malcolm McCusker, QC, said in his report into the 1988 collapse of Rothwells that Mr Bond had demanded and been paid the secret "rescue fee" for his company's part in the bail-out.

The 500-page McCusker report into Rothwells was released this week under parliamentary privilege.

Mr Bond said in a statement issued last night: "I wish to place on record my denial of the findings by Malcolm McCusker in relation to the so-called success fee.

Neither I nor Bond Corp, nor any Bond company, received a success fee from Rothwells in relation to the first Rothwells rescue. I have consistently maintained this, and the accounts of all relevant entities will show this.

"Unfortunately, Mr McCusker con-

ducted his enquiry in a manner which denied people like myself the opportunity of finally answering the conclusions he reached. He has accepted prepared written evidence from government ministers and preferred it to oral evidence of witnesses like myself under interrogation."

According to the report, Mr Bond "required" Rothwells to buy Bond Corp Holdings shares in 1988, as a condition of extending a credit facility provided to a company associated with Laurie Connell, Rothwells' founder and chairman.

The report states Rothwells lost about Aus\$2.2 million on the alleged deal. It is one of several transactions involving both public and private companies associated with Mr Bond mentioned in the report.

As well as the BCH share deal, the report refers to "evidence" that Mr Bond's Dallhold Investments "arranged" with Mr Connell for Rothwells to buy shares in Endeavour Resources, then controlled by BCH.

When Rothwells sold the Endeavour shares - "at the request of Dallhold" -

Dallhold "called upon" it to account for a share of the profits.

The report discloses that "more detailed accounts" of both the BCH and Endeavour share transactions have been included in part two of the report, with Mr McCusker's opinions. Part two is the confidential volume of the McCusker report, not released for legal reasons.

The BCH share transaction is traced to a credit facility provided by Gold Mines of Kalgoolie to Paragon Resources soon after the first Rothwells rescue in October 1987.

GMK was then controlled by Dallhold and through Dallhold by Mr Bond. The facility entitled Paragon to draw commercial bills endorsed by GMK, and accepted by Rothwells, up to a value of Aus\$50 million.

Meanwhile, the former company secretary of Rothwells was jailed yesterday for three years on charges of stealing cheques worth more than Aus\$9 million and on improper use of his position. Thomas Forrest Huggall, aged 52, was told by Chief Judge Heenan in the Perth District Court:

"It seems you regarded the companies in the group and their assets as if they belonged to you."

The Huggall case was one of the reasons the government of Western Australia delayed the publication of the McCusker report until this week.

The government's legal advice was that the report should not be published until Huggall's trial had ended. It did so last week after a 12-day hearing. Within minutes of the sentencing, Huggall's lawyers returned to court, asking for more time to prepare for a preliminary hearing of ten separate charges against their client in relation to Rothwells.

In the Perth Magistrates' Court, Colin Boys, a magistrate, rejected the application but indicated he might defer the hearing for up to a month if one of Huggall's co-defendants - a Brisbane chartered accountant and Rothwells' auditor, Louis Carter - lodges a similar application when he makes his first appearance on October 2.

Huggall and Mr Carter are charged with two co-defendants, Mr Connell and Peter

Lucas, a former Rothwells director (who is not the Bond Corp Holdings director of the same name). The four face several charges relating to Rothwells, which collapsed in 1988 with losses of more than Aus\$260 million. They are each charged with four counts of making false statements in Rothwells' annual reports under Section 420 of the Criminal Code.

They are also charged with conspiring to defraud the public by concealing and falsely portraying the true financial position of Rothwells under Section 412 of the Criminal Code.

Huggall has been separately charged with 14 counts of improperly using his position as an officer of a company. These charges came up for mention yesterday and were adjourned to a date to be fixed.

In the District Court yesterday, Huggall, a practising accountant for more than 20 years, was jailed for one year on the improper use of his position as a company officer and three years on the nine charges of stealing cheques. The sentences are to be served concurrently.

Greenall to pull out of brewing after 228 years

By DEREK HARRIS, INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

GREENALL Whitley, the Warrington, Cheshire, brewer, is to close its two breweries and write off £48 million after trying to sell them for a year.

It means 700 jobs will go by next year, 500 at Warrington and the rest at Nottingham, where Shipstone beers are brewed.

Greenall Whitley has been brewing its own ales since Thomas Greenall built a brewery at St Helena, Lancashire, in 1762 and the plan to stop after more than 200 years brought angry reactions both from trade unions and Warrington councillors worried about the effects on the town's economy.

Peter Greenall, who is to head Greenall Inns, the public house chain, with expansion in mind, is a member of the Greenall family.

The City liked the move, with the shares finishing up 3p at 323p. Greenall being seen as baring the bull in its declared intention to become a leisure group with public houses, restaurants and hotels.

Over three years the move will bring in cash of about £44 million as working capital is released and assets sold off.

The gross cash flow will amount to £64 million, but closures will cost £20 million.

Within the £48 million write-off is the net closure cost of £20 million and a writing down of assets of £28 million. The current book value of the assets, mainly the breweries, is £92 million.

But the net £23 million gained by Greenall from the recent sale of its Vladimir vodka business will cushion the closure costs.

There are plans to develop the Widderspool brewery site at Warrington over the next three to five years with a combination of retailing, offices and housing, and Greenall will retain a headquarters there. The Nottingham site is in an industrial area and will be used for warehousing and distribution although there could be some office development. Greenall also has development plans for its Davenport, Birmingham, site.

About 250 people are ex-



Last orders: Peter Greenall announces the closures of the Greenall Whitley breweries yesterday

Philips 'will stop microchip making'

By WOLFGANG MÜNCHAU

PHILIPS is to abandon microchip manufacturing and pull out of Europe's most prestigious microchip co-operation programme, JESS, according to a report in *NRC Handelsblad*, the respected Dutch newspaper.

Philips' fortunes have taken a dive in recent months because of problems at its computer and electronic components divisions. It has given warning that it will suffer losses of 2 billion guilders (£592 million) this year.

Philips' promised restructuring programme, which will involve the loss of 10,000 jobs world-wide, is widely expected to result in the closure of the two loss-making divisions.

Philips refused to comment on the Dutch newspaper reports. A spokesman said: "We do not want to go into this subject at this moment in time." He said that an announcement was expected some time this month. If the

£5m rights 'to fund changes'

By MATTHEW BOND

WESTMINSTER & Country Properties, the property company that wants to become a continental leisure group, is to raise £5.5 million through a rights issue to help finance its change of direction. It also plans to change its name to Arcadian International.

The five-for-three rights issue, which is underwritten by Hoare Govett, comes five months after Robert Breare and Jeremy Priestley led a consortium that bought a 29.9 per cent stake in Westminster.

The new shares are priced at 100p, 105p less than the consortium paid for its shares in April and 35p below yesterday's close. The issue was accompanied by results for the year to April, which showed that Westminster had made a pre-tax loss of £1.7 million (£3 million profit).

The final dividend has been cut from 12p to 3p, for a total payout of 4p (14p).

BUSINESS ROUNDUP
Brittan 'wants Brussels to scrap steel treaty'

Sir Leon Brittan, the European Community's competition commissioner, wants the EC to scrap the treaty protecting its coal and steel industries. Both industries have been supported through slumps in world demand by price controls and quotas set by the Brussels commission under the Paris Treaty on coal and steel, which was signed in 1951.

With the world-wide recovery in the steel industry, Sir Leon believes the protection offered by the treaty, which expires in 2002, is no longer needed. Sir Leon, a commission vice-president and a leading proponent of swift deregulation of European industry, is likely to encounter stiff resistance from other commissioners and the powerful coal and steel industry lobbies.

Torday rises at half time

TORDAY & Carlisle's first interim results since joining the main market show pre-tax profits up 33 per cent to £1.5 million in the half year to June. The interim dividend rises to 2.3p a share. Paul Torday, chairman, said trading at the signs business, Oldham Signs, had deteriorated. Its Wembley factory would be closed, concentrating production at its two Leeds factories.

Klearfold in the red

Klearfold, the plastic packaging group, made a pre-tax loss of \$252,000 (revised \$98,000 profit) despite a 24 per cent rise in turnover to \$31.2 million in 1989. In the first half this year, pre-tax losses totalled \$390,000. There is no final dividend for 1989 (3.9 cents) and no interim dividend for the first six months this year (1.8 cents). The shares fell 2p to 11p.

Macfarlane at £4.8m

MACFARLANE Group (Clansman), the Glasgow packaging group, lifted profits from £4.32 million to £4.8 million in the first six months of 1990, on sales up from £48.7 million to £53.9 million. Earnings rose from 5.5p to 6.21p. The interim dividend rises 11 per cent to 1.702p a share.

Sir Norman Macfarlane, chairman, expects profits for the year to be ahead of last year's. Results from the French acquisitions are up to expectations, he says. The main packaging division, plastic moulding, and marketing products traded satisfactorily. Only the label companies, undergoing a reorganisation programme, had a difficult year.

Interest holds Gaskell back

HIGHER interest charges restricted Gaskell, the carpet maker, to an increase in pre-tax profits of only £20,000 to £1,055 million in the six months to end-June. The interim dividend rises from 2.8p to 3p. The company said Gaskell Carpets had performed better than expected. It added that capital spending would fall in the second half.

Marylebone shares down

SHARES in the USM property group Marylebone Estates fell 1.5p to 18p on news that it had broken off talks with an unknown bidder - for the second time this summer. In June its shares touched 28p after talks with an overseas group, believed to be Petu Amstern, a Scandinavian consortium. They, too, were inconclusive.

Elliott buys Garryson

B ELLIOTT, the machine tool and electrical engineering company, is paying £4.7 million for Garryson, a Leicester-based metal cutting machinery manufacturer. The price consists of 2.1 million convertible preference shares and £2.6 million in cash. Elliott has also placed 4.94 million shares at 78p each to raise £3.8 million after expenses, which will cover the cash payment and part of a £3 million goodwill write-off. Michael Eyr, Elliott's chairman, said he hoped to expand the group's exports through Garryson's overseas network, particularly its sales office in Germany.

Investments boost Ulster

By GILLIAN BOWDITCH

ULSTER Television, ITV's Northern Ireland contractor, made pre-tax profits of £1.32 million for the six months to end-June - an increase of 10 per cent despite a fall in turnover from £13.2 million to £12.3 million.

The rise came from the group's investment income, which in the first half rose from £434,000 to £544,000. The contribution from the television operation was static at £776,000. It received £1.6

million in June last year on the sale of its stake in Independent Television Publications to Reed International. Programme sales fell from £1.21 million to £245,000.

Earnings per share rose from 7.42p to 7.65p and the interim dividend is 3p. Because of the change in year-end last year there were two interim dividends, the first was 2.5p and the second 3.5p.

Dr Brum Henderson, chairman, said the television operation had been affected by several factors, principally the decline in real terms of ITV's advertising revenue.

"The changed basis of the Exchange Levy, now related primarily to revenue income rather than to profits, resulted in its near doubling to £394,000 at this half year stage. But we expect that the effect for the full financial year will be less severe," added Dr Henderson.

Davy and SLP to set up North Sea venture

By JONATHAN PRYNN

DAVY Corporation, the engineering group, has announced a joint venture with SLP Engineering, a subsidiary of George Wimpey, to design and construct accommodation modules and other facilities for North Sea platforms.

The venture, to be called SLP Davy Engineering, will be controlled by SLP, which will have a 75 per cent stake and majority board representation.

Under the terms of the deal Davy will lease its Middleborough yard to SLP Davy for the construction of a £30 million accommodation and helideck unit for Tiffany, the offshore construction group.

SLP decided to seek a joint venture partner when it realised it did not have sufficient capacity at its Lowestoft yard to complete the contract.

Irish police investigate Goodman loan

FROM DAN WHITE IN DUBLIN

OFFICIALS from Barclays Bank and officers of the Irish fraud squad are investigating a series of transactions under which one of Larry Goodman's companies lent Ir£25 million (£22.6 million) borrowed from the Irish arm of Mercantile Credit, a subsidiary of Barclays.

The news came at the same time as the board of Food Industries, 68 per cent owned by Mr Goodman, appointed advisers to assist in the sale of all or part of the group and the examiner of Goodman International secured high court permission to borrow up to Ir£25 million for the group's working capital needs.

It now appears that a Goodman

company borrowed Ir£25 million from Mercantile Credit last March. This was guaranteed by a £25 million deposit from a third party. The Goodman company in turn lent the borrowed money to another Irish-registered company. When 60 days later the loan from Mercantile Credit was repaid by the Goodman company, it was unable to recover the loan that it had made in turn.

The money lent by the Goodman company was in turn deposited in a National Westminster bank account in Britain and £20 million was later transferred to a bank account in Cyprus.

The news is a further embarrassment for Mercantile Credit in Ireland. Last June it "suspended" John

Heelan, its managing director. It has now initiated high court proceedings against Mr Heelan and two others seeking the return of a disputed Ir£7 million.

In an emergency Dail debate last Tuesday, Pat Rabbitte, the Workers' Party industry and commerce spokesman, alleged that Larry Goodman had raised an Ir£20 million loan which he had then deposited with Mercantile Credit in order to avoid Irish deposit interest retention tax.

In further developments, it became clear that Food Industries is almost certain to be broken up. The Food Industries board has appointed NCB Corporate Finance to advise it on the sale of part or all of the company. The main candidate for the grain and

LONDON TRADED OPTIONS

[illegible]

	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034	2035	2036	2037	2038	2039	2040	2041	2042	2043	2044	2045	2046	2047	2048	2049	2050	2051	2052	2053	2054	2055	2056	2057	2058	2059	2060	2061	2062	2063	2064	2065	2066	2067	2068	2069	2070	2071	2072	2073	2074	2075	2076	2077	2078	2079	2080	2081	2082	2083	2084	2085	2086	2087	2088	2089	2090	2091	2092	2093	2094	2095	2096	2097	2098	2099	2100	2101	2102	2103	2104	2105	2106	2107	2108	2109	2110	2111	2112	2113	2114	2115	2116	2117	2118	2119	2120	2121	2122	2123	2124	2125	2126	2127	2128	2129	2130	2131	2132	2133	2134	2135	2136	2137	2138	2139	2140	2141	2142	2143	2144	2145	2146	2147	2148	2149	2150	2151	2152	2153	2154	2155	2156	2157	2158	2159	2160	2161	2162	2163	2164	2165	2166	2167	2168	2169	2170	2171	2172	2173	2174	2175	2176	2177	2178	2179	2180	2181	2182	2183	2184	2185	2186	2187	2188	2189	2190	2191	2192	2193	2194	2195	2196	2197	2198	2199	2200	2201	2202	2203	2204	2205	2206	2207	2208	2209	2210	2211	2212	2213	2214	2215	2216	2217	2218	2219	2220	2221	2222	2223	2224	2225	2226	2227	2228	2229	2230	2231	2232	2233	2234	2235	2236	2237	2238	2239	2240	2241	2242	2243	2244	2245	2246	2247	2248	2249	2250	2251	2252	2253	2254	2255	2256	2257	2258	2259	2260	2261	2262	2263	2264	2265	2266	2267	2268	2269	2270	2271	2272	2273	2274	2275	2276	2277	2278	2279	2280	2281	2282	2283	2284	2285	2286	2287	2288	2289	2290	2291	2292	2293	2294	2295	2296	2297	2298	2299	2300	2301	2302	2303	2304	2305	2306	2307	2308	2309	2310	2311	2312	2313	2314	2315	2316	2317	2318	2319	2320	2321	2322	2323	2324	2325	2326	2327	2328	2329	2330	2331	2332	2333	2334	2335	2336	2337	2338	2339	2340	2341	2342	2343	2344	2345	2346	2347	2348	2349	2350	2351	2352	2353	2354	2355	2356	2357	2358	2359	2360	2361	2362	2363	2364	2365	2366	2367	2368	2369	2370	2371	2372	2373	2374	2375	2376	2377	2378	2379	2380	2381	2382	2383	2384	2385	2386	2387	2388	2389	2390	2391	2392	2393	2394	2395	2396	2397	2398	2399	2400	2401	2402	2403	2404	2405	2406	2407	2408	2409	2410	2411	2412	2413	2414	2415	2416	2417	2418	2419	2420	2421	2422	2423	2424	2425	2426	2427	2428	2429	2430	2431	2432	2
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[illegible][illegible]

TRADITIONAL OPTIONS

[illegible]

DOLLAR SPOT RATES

Denmark	56.0302-0.0138	Italy	1167.0-1168.0
FR Germany	1.5151-1.5162	Korea (Cen)	22.22-22.24
Switzerland	1.5303-1.5304	Hong Kong	71.89-71.90
Netherlands	1.7725-1.7785	Portugal	138.55-139.15
France	5.7470-5.7508	Australia	57.50-58.10
Japan	143.55-143.85	Spain	110.05-110.10

Rates supplied by Starkey Bank GTS and Excal.

MONEY MARKETS

EURO MONEY DEPOSITS %

Currency	7 day	1 mth	3 mth	6 mth
Dollar	8 1/8	8 1/8	8 1/8	8 1/8
Cat: 5-7%				
Deutschmark	8 1/8-8 1/8	8 1/8-8 1/8	8 1/8-8 1/8	8 1/8-8 1/8
Cat: 5-7				
Finland Mark	9 1/8-9 1/8	10-10 1/8	10 1/8-10 1/8	10 1/8-10 1/8
Cat: 10-12				
Swiss Franc	8 3/4-8 3/4	8 1/8-8 1/8	8 1/8-8 1/8	8 1/8-8 1/8
Cat: 8 1/8-8 1/8				
Yen	7 1/8-7 1/8	8 1/8-8 1/8	8 1/8-8 1/8	8 1/8-8 1/8
Cat: 7 1/8-7 1/8				

GOLD

BULLION:	Per ounce
Open: \$386.25-388.75	Close: \$385.00-385.50
High: \$389.75-390.25	Low: \$383.50-384.00

COINS:

Per coin (Ex VAT)
1975-1980: \$384.00-389.00 (\$200.00-210.00)
Kingsnapper: \$384.00-387.00 (\$200.00-205.00)
Maundy: (17oz) \$384.00-387.00 (\$200.00-211.00)
Maundy: (17oz) \$384.00-387.00 (\$200.00-211.00)

ON FINANCIAL FUTURES

Close		Open		High	Low	Close	Vol
Open Interest 2362							
32239		Three month SCU				Previous open interest 2363	
127		US\$	88.70	88.72	88.67	88.70	38
		US\$	88.70	88.76	88.63	88.63	11
open interest 17182		US Treasury Bond				Previous open interest 636	
83.21		Long GR	81.02	81.09	80.90	80.90	1587
1287						Previous open interest 374	
open interest 4128		Long GR	81.22	81.30	81.25	81.25	1816
82.01		Japanese Gov Bond				Previous open interest 1182	
1540			88.01	88.05	87.95	88.00	120
open interest 16830		Chemical Goods				Previous open interest 108	
81.30	1281	Sao Paulo	81.84	82.07	81.78	82.02	1817
81.91	1281	Dec 82	81.78	81.75	81.42	81.68	8350

LONDON METAL EXCHANGE			
Official prices, previous day			
(Pence)	Close	3 month	Vol
Copper Cable A	1586.0-1586.0	1535.0-1535.0	448100
Lead	460.0-460.5	465.5-464.0	31260
Zinc Spec HP	1922.0-1925.0	1930.0-1939.0	122007
Aluminium 99.5	5890.0-5895.0	5870.0-5875.0	6715
Nickel	1855.0-1860.0	1875.0-1878.0	389775
	11000-11225	10875-10880	10488

(1 Cent per Troy oz. \$ per tonne)

LONDON MEAT FUTURES (lbs)				
MEAT & LIVESTOCK COMMISSION				
Key historical prices at representative markets on August 31				
Live Pig Contract	Open	Close	Settle	
Sep	110.5	106.8	GB (p/l)	106.4
Oct	112.3	109.2	GB (p/l)	108.4
Nov	115.5	108.8	GB (p/l)	-0.8
Dec	88.5	97.5	GB (p/l)	+1.7
Live Cattle Contract			GB (p/l)	+1.9
Oct	n/a	n/a	GB (p/l)	+1.3
Nov	n/a	n/a	GB (p/l)	+1.4
Dec	n/a	n/a	GB (p/l)	+1.4
Live Sheep Contract			GB (p/l)	+1.4
Oct	n/a	n/a	GB (p/l)	+1.4
Nov	n/a	n/a	GB (p/l)	+1.4
Dec	n/a	n/a	GB (p/l)	+1.4

Vol Pig-3 Cattle-0

* Estimated dead carcass weight

Is role

[illegible][illegible][illegible][illegible][illegible][illegible][illegible][illegible]

New high-risk futures funds meet resistance from British managers

The prices in this section refer to Thursday's trading

WEEKEND MONEY

Fimbra suspends financial advisers

TWO firms of investment advisers in the West Midlands, with £3 million under management, have been placed in provisional liquidation, after concern for the safety of clients' funds (Jon Ashworth writes).

Robert Carter & Partners and Robert Carter Management Services, which managed portfolios on a discretionary basis for about 200 clients, were suspended last week by the Financial Intermediaries, Managers and Brokers Regulatory Association (Fimbra).

The Securities and Investments Board (SIB) went on to obtain a High Court order appointing the Official Receiver as provisional liquidator of both firms.

SIB said it had acted in liaison with Fimbra after emergency Rule 17 orders were imposed on the firms last Friday evening. The two regulators said, in a statement, that action was taken after fears that the firms could not meet their obligations to clients.

Robert Carter & Partners, which was responsible for the bulk of the business, specialised in managing unit trust portfolios.

It has four partners, Robert Carter, his brother Peter Carter, Claire Taylor and Gerard Hunt. All were also directors.

with the exception of Mr Hunt.

The bulk of the £3 million in funds under management is now in the hands of the Official Receiver, and it is not clear how much investors' money may be at stake. A spokeswoman for the SIB said it was unclear whether any money was missing, but the firms were unable to account for funds that some clients had claimed were due to them.

Fimbra was first alerted to possible difficulties at the firms when it carried out a compliance visit in May.

The spokeswoman said action was taken after information was received from the firms on Friday. The directors are said to be co-operating fully with officials.

The Official Receiver will be writing to clients of the firms, explaining the situation and setting out the likely course of action.

If the firms are placed in full liquidation and funds are discovered to be missing, clients may have a claim on the Investors Compensation Scheme, which pays out a maximum of £48,000 according to a sliding scale.

Investors should address their enquiries in writing to P.H. Navier, Official Receiver, 21 Bloomsbury Street, London, WC1.

New SIB investigator

By LINDSAY COOK, MONEY EDITOR

FROM today, Dame Anne Mueller takes over as the independent investigator of the Securities and Investments Board (SIB), the investors' watchdog.

She will act as arbitrator between companies regulated by SIB and investors.

Dame Mueller replaces Stephen Edell, Professor Robert Jack and Tim Herrington. Initially she will be the lone investigator but another appointment will be made soon. She will be called upon to arbitrate when the complaints procedures of member companies, such as building societies, and of the SIB fail to settle a dispute. Investors do not have to pay to have their complaints dealt with by the investigator and they can still take court action if they are not satisfied with the result.



Dame Anne Mueller

There is no limit to the amount of compensation that the independent investigator can award, unlike other investment ombudsmen, who are limited to £50,000 or £100,000.

Patience urged as flood of offers greets BES season

By JON ASHWORTH

THE new mini-season for Business Expansion Schemes that starts this weekend includes well-known names and some new players.

But investors looking for extra tax relief before the October 5 deadline have been warned not to rush into the first deal they see, since more could be on the way.

Sun Life is promoting the fifth offer in its BesRes series, which invests in properties on or near university campuses. Nationwide Anglia is back in the market with its assured tenancies, while other familiar sponsors, including Neill Clerk, the Scottish solicitor, and Hodgson Martin, have unveiled a range of issues.

Most BES money is invested in February and March. The October 5 deadline is important to investors who wish to carry back up to £5,000 into the previous season, and for those who have not invested up to the £40,000 limit.

Of £162 million raised in the year to April, about £25 million flowed in during the run-up to October last year, and analysts were expecting a similar amount to be raised this season.

The team behind Airways Homes, the top issue of the 1989-90 season, has decided to put its well-tried formula to further use, but with one important difference. Airways Homes, which plans to provide homes for workers near the British Aerospace factory at Hatfield, Hertfordshire, is again backed by the Airways Housing Trust. But the promise of a guaranteed exit route for investors, a feature of the early Airways issues, has fallen by the wayside.

Initially, the Airways Housing Trust had pledged to buy back shares from Airways investors after the minimum five-year BES term. There is no such guarantee for Airways investors, leaving a stockmarket listing as a possible option. Alternatively, properties may be offered to tenants to buy on a shared ownership basis.

John Spiers, of BES Investment, said: "There has been quite a material change in emphasis. The issue has



Change in emphasis: John Spiers, editor of BES Investment with his publication

moved from having an edge to, if anything, being a bit negative.

Steven Rowe, who acted as a consultant to Airways Homes and is advising on the new issue, said he did not think the lack of a buy-back formula would put investors off. He said there was a good possibility that the issue would go to the market, adding that more investors seemed to be taking a long-term view of their holdings.

Another issue to resurface in a modified form is Neill Clerk's Paragon, which was heavily criticised when it first appeared for the vagueness of its prospectus. Confusion over how and where funds would be invested made the issue less successful, but the sponsors are hopeful that more specific

investment guidelines will solve the problem.

Some funds will be used to build homes on specific sites, while others will take advantage of the weak housing market to buy homes at a discount.

A third option will involve "strategic" buying in areas where purchases "can be made at the right place at the right time if an early uplift in value is envisaged". Analysts were unable to say whether the additions improved the issue, since the prospectus is not yet widely available.

Manchester Village Homes, Norcity II and Norhomes are included in a batch of assured tenancies backed by Neill Clerk.

Hodgson Martin, the Scottish investment manager

which sponsored Colby Gold, the company which set out to find gold in the Scottish Highlands, has returned with five new issues, including investment in timber trading, music and archival storage.

Many prospectuses are due to be published next week, and analysts expect up to 30 issues to be made available. Anthony Yaggarov, of BES Advice, said the quality of BES issues appeared to be improving. "We seem to be getting a much more discerning marketplace, and sponsors are generally getting a lot better."

The Predator fund from Johnson, Fry rises up to its name. It plans to take advantage of the slump in the housing market to buy homes at huge discounts from builders desperate for cash.

INTEREST RATES ROUND-UP

	Notional rate	Compounded at tax rates 25% 40%	Min/max investment £	Notice	Contact
BANKS					
Ordinary Dep A/c Typical	4.50	4.60	3.60	none/none	7 day
Fixed Term Deposits:					
Barclays	10.81	10.81	5.00	25,000-50,000	1 min 071-455 1567
Lloyds	10.33	10.33	5.00	25,000-50,000	1 min 071-455 1567
Lloyds	10.33	10.33	5.00	25,000-50,000	1 min 071-455 1567
Mitochondria	10.33	10.33	5.00	25,000-50,000	1 min 071-455 1567
Northwest	10.33	10.33	5.00	25,000-50,000	1 min 071-455 1567
Yorkshire	10.33	10.33	5.00	25,000-50,000	1 min 071-455 1567

HIGH INTEREST CHEQUE ACCOUNTS					
Bank of Scotland M&C	10.45	10.45	5.78	2,500	none 031-442 7777
Barclays	9.50	9.50	7.87	2,500	none 0604 252851
Co-operative	6.00	6.00	4.95	no limit	none 071 626 6543
Grindlays	9.25	9.25	7.40	1,000	none 051 596 2075
London NCA	9.50	9.50	7.87	2,500	none 071-325 2396
Midland NCA	9.50	9.50	7.87	2,500	none
Northwest	9.00	9.00	7.45	500	none 071-374 3274
Special Reserve	9.75	9.75	8.29	2,500	none 031-555 8555
Royal Bank of Scotland	9.00	9.00	7.20	2,000	none 071-600 2200

BUILDING SOCIETIES					
Ordinary Share A/c	6.15	6.15	4.92	1 min	none
Best buy - largest issue:					
Avonmouth	9.80	9.80	7.62	250 min	none
Avonmouth	9.80	9.80	7.62	250 min	none
Avonmouth	9.80	9.80	7.62	250 min	none
Avonmouth	9.80	9.80	7.62	250 min	none
Avonmouth	9.80	9.80	7.62	250 min	none

CASH/CHEQUE ACCOUNTS					
Card Cash	3.75	3.75	3.00	1 min	none
Card Cash	3.75	3.75	3.00	1 min	none
Card Cash	3.75	3.75	3.00	1 min	none
Card Cash	3.75	3.75	3.00	1 min	none
Card Cash	3.75	3.75	3.00	1 min	none

NATIONAL SAVINGS					
Ordinary A/c	5.00	5.00	3.00	5-10,000	5 day 041-549-5555
Investment A/c	12.75	12.75	8.80	5-25,000	1 min 071-455 1567
Investment A/c	12.75	12.75	8.80	5-25,000	1 min 071-455 1567
Investment A/c	12.75	12.75	8.80	5-25,000	1 min 071-455 1567
Investment A/c	12.75	12.75	8.80	5-25,000	1 min 071-455 1567

GUARANTEED INCOME BONDS					
Avonmouth	12.20	12.20	10.37	25,000 min	1 yr 071-455 1567
Avonmouth	12.20	12.20	10.37	25,000 min	1 yr 071-455 1567
Avonmouth	12.20	12.20	10.37	25,000 min	1 yr 071-455 1567
Avonmouth	12.20	12.20	10.37	25,000 min	1 yr 071-455 1567
Avonmouth	12.20	12.20	10.37	25,000 min	1 yr 071-455 1567

COMPILED BY KAREN BUCKLEY					
FIRST TIME BUYERS					
London	14.40	14.40	11.00	14.40	11.00
London	14.40	14.40	11.00	14.40	11.00
London	14.40	14.40	11.00	14.40	11.00
London	14.40	14.40	11.00	14.40	11.00
London	14.40	14.40	11.00	14.40	11.00

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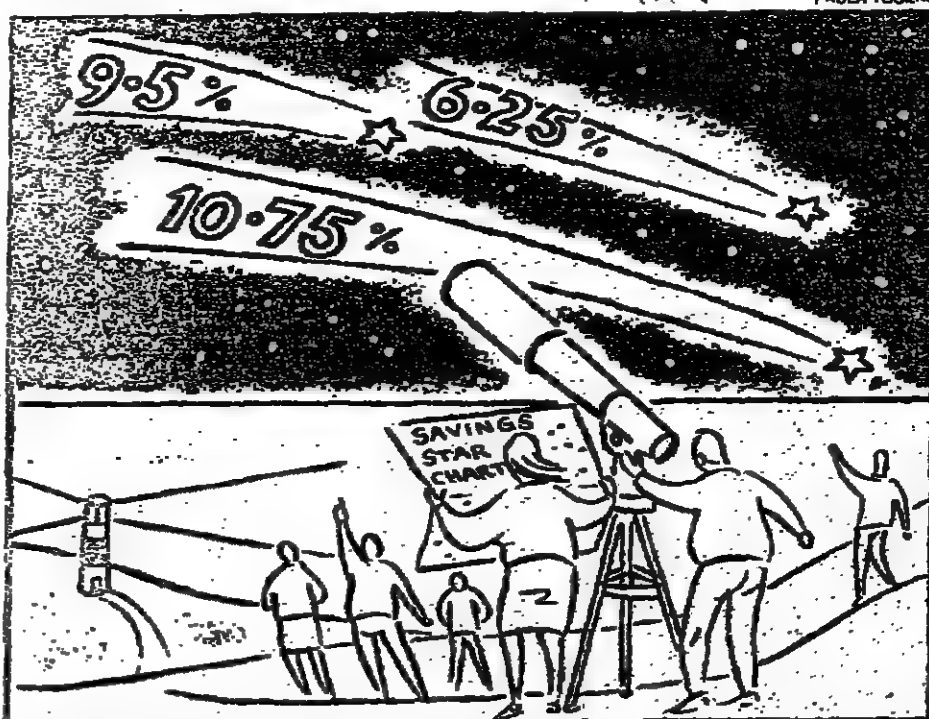
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Fidelity Investments

Rate watch warning to investors in the high-speed world of saving

Failing to keep up with changes in the various accounts on offer can prove costly. Lindsay Cook reports



With interest rates on the move, anyone who has not checked their rate against the best on offer should do so straight away. Today's new super account is tomorrow's disappointment in the faster moving savings world.

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Although no interest rate was detailed, he felt the total interest for the year to December 31 at £498.11 was low for an account which had av-

Mr Madge has since discovered that the account was withdrawn by the society in September 1985 without investors being told. Those

The society added: "Annual statements of interest issued by the society do not indicate the interest rates as these can be advised should a customer seek to query the amount of

A spokeswoman for National, the second largest society, said it did not automatically issue interest statements to savers. Most were expected to take in their pass books to

Westminster Bank's first reserve savings account. On amounts above £1,000 it pays 15 per cent. Withdrawals of any amount can be made without notice or penalty. The

Learnington Spa building society has launched two investment accounts, offering

income and value growth and trusts. The offer, which closes on September 17, is open to investors with at least £500 to spare. Both funds have an

account now pays a top rate of 14.87 per cent gross on amounts between £5,000 and £9,999.

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LETTERS

Banker's choice

From Mr D. S. Jenkins
Sir, When a banker is presented with a cheque drawn by a customer who does not have sufficient funds in his account, the banker has two options. He either pays it or returns it to the presenting bank as unpaid.
If the bank pays the cheque, how can it claim that the resultant overdraft is unauthorised? Surely by agreeing to pay, that is authorisation in itself. The bank, quite correctly, charges interest on the overdraft so created. It, in effect, is charging for the primary objective of maintaining a banking account; that is, the ability to borrow money.
What other business sells its products to customers and then charges them additionally for the privilege of dealing with them?
Yours faithfully,
D. S. JENKINS,
Found Hall Farm,
107 Norley Lane,
Studley, Calne,
Wiltshire.

Import tax puzzle

From Mr David Whitaker
Sir, Can any of your readers explain to me why Customs and Excise charge value-added tax on goods brought into this country, when they do not add value?
Surely, whatever they charge, it ought not to be VAT?
Yours faithfully,
DAVID WHITAKER,
30 Jenner House,
Hunter Street, WC1.

Franc exchange

From Mr Charles M. Flood
Sir, I was interested in your article (Weekend Money, August 11). When discussing currency rates, you did not warn readers that if they use a credit card for buying foreign currency, the transaction is treated as a loan from the date of the transaction. Six weeks interest at APR 29.84 per cent

Small-minded treatment of those who quit Barclaycard

From Mr Laurence Faulkner
Sir, I was interested to read about the pitfalls of changing credit cards, as a result of Barclaycard's introduction of an annual fee (Comment, Weekend Money, August 11).
I recently experienced another problem when closing my Barclaycard account and changing over to the Save & Prosper Visa card. I had been in the Profiles incentive scheme run by Barclaycard, and the current number of points was always shown on the bottom of the monthly statement. I was very surprised, therefore, to notice that my final statement, after I had told them I wanted to close the account, did not show how many points I had already accumulated. I telephoned Barclaycard, who told me that it was normal practice not to show the number of points already allocated, once a person had notified them that they intended to close their account. Furthermore, I was told that I had only three weeks in which to use up the points by ordering items from the catalogue. I have read through all the documentation I was sent concerning the Profiles scheme and can see no reference to this unreasonably short time limit.
I think it is particularly small-minded of Barclaycard to behave in this way, and perhaps you could draw readers' attention to this unpleasant practice.
Yours faithfully,
LAURENCE FAULKNER,
1 Barley Lees,
Hungarton, Leicestershire.



Draft fee dodged

From Mrs M. Cooper
Sir, I read Ronald Riggs's letter (Weekend Money Letters, August 11) and sympathise with his feelings.
I also sought a banker's draft from my bank recently for the purchase of a car and a similar fee was requested. I suggested the bank gave me the same amount in cash instead (no fee charged for that). The banker's draft promptly appeared - without charge!
Yours sincerely,
MARGARET COOPER,
Home Farmhouse,
Oxton,
Nottinghamshire.

Telecom charges

From Mrs Jennie Hawthorne
Sir, The double British Telecom rental, about which your correspondent Mr Burnside complains, can be tripled by the fact that rental, no matter how short a period, has to be paid for three months in advance (though part may be later refunded).
Thus a new occupier of a house pays three months in advance (plus reconnection charge), even if leaving before

Survey errors

From Mr Nicholas Morley
Sir, I read with interest your article concerning negligent surveys of buildings prior to purchase. I would like to bring to your attention the opposite problem: that of a survey indicating faults which on more detailed inspection prove to be non-existent.
Our experience in this area is as follows: on selling my wife's house, the buyer's survey report referred to cracks that could be due to subsidence. On this basis the



Societies' shortcomings

From Mr Duncan Macleay
Sir, Some months ago you published a letter from a reader who said he was so dissatisfied with his bank that he intended to transfer his account to a building society. He had written to the bank to tell them so and was further aggrieved that he had had no reply to this letter. My own suspicion was that whenever a member of the bank staff sat down to reply, he was convulsed with helpless laughter at the thought of anyone hoping to receive better service in this way.
Some two years ago my wife and I opened, in addition to our personal bank accounts, a joint account with a building society to look after regular household expenses. Among the incidents since then, the society has:
a. returned a dividend cheque to a company with a note that they could not find the company;
b. paid monthly a standing order due every six months.
Apart from having a better, if not perfect, record in handling our accounts, the banks do not go in for pseudo-personal relations. "Good morning, this is John. Can I help you?" or, in letters, "Our ref. Karen." Curiously, I have never made contact with any of these people a second time. Although staff in both banks and societies are usually courteous and helpful, the banks do not seem to have that minority of staff who insist on condescending explanations of how accounts work, explanations which seem intended to show that in the end it was not the society's fault.
We retain our building society largely through inertia; it took some effort to set the system of payments up and we do not want to repeat this at the moment.
Yours faithfully,
DUNCAN MACLEAY,
93 Munro Road,
Jordanshill, Glasgow.

buyers were refused a mortgage by the building society and the sale fell through. A survey by structural engineers (obviously at our expense) revealed that this was the normal shrinkage cracking to be expected in a house only two years old. By this time it was too late to retrieve the sale and it is still necessary to bridge the new house we have bought (fortunately covered for a while by my company).
The comments and questions arising from this experience are:

1. Sellers of homes can be inconvenienced as much as buyers by incorrect survey information.
2. This type of experience will probably increase as surveyors ensure that they are "covered" against the type of claim your article mentions and become increasingly cautious.
3. Does the seller have any recourse against the buyer's surveyor for the expenses incurred, either directly or through the RICS? Yours sincerely,
NICHOLAS MORLEY,
2 Well Cottages,
Lee Common,
Great Missenden,
Buckinghamshire.

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Playing safe with credit cards

By RODNEY HOBSON

WOULD you share your cheque book with a friend? Sensible people who would never dream of risking a fraudulent withdrawal from their current account are creating a grey area of responsibility when it comes to credit, charge and debit cards.
A reader from Marlow in Buckinghamshire was dining with an important foreign business client at a London hotel. He regarded the contact as a long-standing friend and allowed his American Express card to pass into the client's possession for a few minutes.
His error, he admits, and an expensive one. The "long-standing friend" apparently used the card to pay his own hotel bill for £2,500 which the Marlow reader now faces paying.
A spokeswoman for American Express says: "If any member for any reason disputes a payment and there is no signature on the voucher we would normally charge the amount back to the hotel.

Then it is up to the hotel to contact the cardholder." The Marlow reader says he did contact American Express and at first was told the bill would be referred back. Now, however, he has been told that the dispute is between him and the hotel.
Amex says it tries to sort out disputes, but adds: "Letting someone else have your card is like giving them access to your bank account. If you want to allow another signatory to your card account we recommend that you apply for a supplementary card. Never let your card out to someone else."
However, Amex does say: "Similarly the hotel or restaurant should not have accepted the charge without watching the card member signing the voucher."
Other card issuers point out some transactions are done on trust. Theatres accept card payment over the telephone. Some hotels take an imprint of the card at check in and fill

in the amount at the end of the stay to prevent guests sneaking out without paying.
Richard Cullen of Visa International says his organisation has a service at some hotels to allow cardholders to check out without queuing. The cardholder signs a declaration when he checks in allowing the hotel to charge his Visa account without a signature. However, because of the possibility of a dispute Visa would normally expect vouchers to be signed. Mr Cullen says: "We have an arbitration procedure that looks at the facts."
A negligent cardholder would be on weaker ground. He would need to consult his agreement to see if he had broken the conditions by lending the card to someone else.
A spokesman for National Westminster Bank says: "As a general point, by giving an hotel an imprint of your card you have in effect agreed with the hotel's terms and conditions. A retailer or hotel

could pass that voucher through even though it was unsigned because it had apparent authority to do so. That would become a wrangle between the cardholder and the retailer or hotel."
Ian Lindsey, director of banking at Save & Prosper, says any cases involving fraud should be reported by the cardholder to the police. He says: "Card issuers have some insurance and if you can prove fraud you are absolving the cardholder of much of the blame. If the cardholder is prepared to report the matter to the police it is quite likely that there is insurance to cover the transaction."
He admits, however, that card issuers generally have a condition that the cardholder must keep the card secure and not hand it to anyone who could misuse it. He says: "The card issuer could take the view that the holder had broken the terms and conditions but whether a court would enforce that is a grey area."

Portfolio PLATINUM

For readers who may have missed a copy of The Times this week, we repeat below the week's Portfolio price changes (today's are on page 35).

Stock	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
1	-4	+3	+1	+7			
2	-5	+8	+4	+5			
3	-3	+7	+2	+4			
4	-4	+5	+2	+7			
5	-4	+8	+3	+6			
6	-5	+7	+3	+5			
7	-3	+5	+5	+3			
8	-5	+3	+1	+8			
9	-2	+8	+4	+5			
10	-3	+7	+5	+6			
11	-4	+6	+5	+3			
12	-4	+8	+3	+5			
13	-1	+8	+5	+4			
14	-5	+8	+3	+3			
15	-4	+4	+2	+6			
16	-3	+8	+3	+5			
17	-5	+4	+1	+6			
18	-2	+6	+4	+6			
19	-4	+7	+4	+3			
20	-5	+3	+3	+8			
21	-4	+6	+2	+4			
22	-4	+9	+3	+4			
23	-4	+7	+4	+4			
24	-5	+7	+3	+3			
25	-4	+4	+1	+8			
26	-3	+7	+2	+4			
27	-3	+6	+7	+4			
28	-6	+8	+5	+3			
29	-3	+6	+3	+7			
30	-6	+7	+4	+5			
31	-3	+7	+3	+4			
32	-6	+9	+3	+4			
33	-2	+6	+4	+3			
34	-4	+4	+2	+7			
35	-3	+3	+3	+7			
36	-3	+7	+5	+3			
37	-5	+8	+5	+3			
38	-9	+6	+5	+3			
39	-2	+7	+4	+5			
40	-3	+5	+3	+4			
41	-3	+4	+1	+8			
42	-4	+6	+4	+5			
43	-2	+5	+6	+5			
44	-4	+9	+5	+4			

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Seeing through ghostly experts

The Financial Services Act gave all the banks, building societies and brokers the option of choosing independent status and offering customers the best investment advice possible, or tied status and the chance to earn large amounts of commission on the quiet. Not surprisingly, all but three of the big high street names opted to take the commission and run. The noble exceptions were National Westminster Bank, the Bradford and Bingley building society and the Yorkshire building society.

Becoming a tied agent of an insurance company was not merely a matter of greater financial gain. Laziness played its part too for some salesmen. Why go to the trouble of learning about all the products available in the market, when you could mug up on the products of just one company?

Now, however, the fashion is changing. Customers, it seems, are not as naive as was first assumed. They can, in increasing numbers, differentiate between independent advice and salesmanship. They do not like the idea of paying vast sums of

commission for a lesser service.

More and more investors like the idea of independent financial advice. Many would even be prepared to pay for it. They see a fixed fee as being fair, open and much cheaper than the commission charged, but not revealed by tied agents.

Given the new climate of opinion, some of the tied agents appear to be resorting to disguise. Take the new television advertisement from Barclays — a bank that sells only the investment products of Barclays companies through its branches.

A poor wretch has nightmares that he is being given the hard sell on pensions by a man on his television set, a man who is clearly not an independent adviser. Other salesmen for life assurance and unit trusts bombard him by way of his entryphone, telephone and letterbox. Then, hey presto, the "ghost" from Barclays appears in his sitting room to save him from



COMMENT
LINDSAY COOK
WEEKEND MONEY EDITOR

the sales spivs. The ghost explains that Barclays has "experts" on hand to help him sort out his financial needs. The clear implication is that the ghost's chums in Barclays branches can differentiate between all the offers featured in the nightmare and tell the customer which products are best for him. This is untrue. Barclays branch staff are experts in Barclays products alone.

The marketing department of Barclays explained that it did not feel it was necessary to point out in the advertisement the nature of the advice its "experts" would offer to customers. In fact, all but a small minority would be

offered Barclays products. Only the more sophisticated investor would be referred to its brokerage service and offered the full range of the market. Expertise did not signify independent advice, said the marketing man.

The advertisement was intended to awaken people to the need for financial guidance and had been remembered by 23 per cent of people surveyed in the first week of its being shown, the marketing man said.

The bank says the advertisement has passed the compliance checks. If so, such checks must be made more rigorous. In the meantime, television viewers should be clear

in their own minds — if they want genuine independent high street expertise they should avoid Barclays.

Debt check

As these pages anticipated last week, the Data Protection Registrar, Eric Howe, has served enforcement notices on the four main credit reference agencies, CCN Systems, Infolink, Wescot Data and Credit and Data Marketing Services have been told to stop supplying information on other people in households when a person applies for credit. The registrar has given the agencies until the end of July 1991 to come into line with the requirements of the 1984 Data Protection Act — a generous offer.

But the battle is unlikely to end next summer. Lenders still believe that information about lodgers, domestic staff or adult

children is essential when deciding whether or not to make a loan. They argue that there is no way of knowing the real relationships between members of a household, and that the debts of one may land another in trouble if credit is extended.

The agencies have 28 days in which to appeal to the Data Protection Tribunal. After that, they can take the dispute all the way to the House of Lords on a point of law. In the meantime, 100,000 people a year are disadvantaged by such illicit material.

The Industry Forum on Data Protection, which represents building societies, finance houses, retailers and mail order companies, has already offered to stop using information on people with different surnames who formerly lived at the same address as a credit applicant from July 31 next year.

The next eleven months will give further room for compromise which should aim to protect both the privacy of applicants and the need of lenders to carry out responsible vetting of clients.

Inheritance tax law puts pension benefits at risk

PEOPLE with personal pension policies that have been written under trust could face higher-than-expected inheritance tax bills if a precedent set recently by the Inland Revenue is enforced universally.

The move centres on Section 3(3) of the Inheritance Tax Act 1984. This states that a person who lowers their inheritance tax liability by omitting to "exercise a right" should be treated as if that right had been fully exercised.

For people who have taken the precaution of writing their pension benefits under trust and who have the option to retire earlier than they intend to, the consequences of this clause being enforced could prove costly.

Anyone who dies after the earliest possible date they could have retired, which for most personal pensions is 50, but before taking their pension benefits, would fall foul of the act.

Trusts intended to protect those benefits from the tax man, could then be annulled by the Inland Revenue and the full value of the pension made subject to taxation.

Despite the relevant legislation having been in place for some time, the Association of British Insurers was only alerted to the issue when it was cited in a ruling made by the Inland Revenue's Capital Taxes Office (CTO) early this year.

The case involved several old-style Section 226 personal pension contracts, the benefits of which had been written into trust shortly before the policyholder died.

The CTO has long regarded these so-called "death bed" cases as an abuse of the system, but has never sought

Inland Revenue precedent could

prove costly to

those not aiming

to retire early

says Paul Nuki

to interpret the act in this way. Alastair Neill, head of the ABI's pensions committee, described the move as "highly bureaucratic" and said that the ABI had formally taken up the issue with the CTO.

It runs contrary to the "spirit and intention of the original legislation", he said. The threat is most serious for people who have purchased personal pensions since July 1988, when the minimum retirement age was reduced from 60 to 50.

These new-style plans are very flexible and tend to incorporate options that would render them next to useless for inheritance planning purposes should the CTO's line be endorsed.

Even policies on which a late retirement date was fixed at the outset could be affected. Alex Sneddon, Scottish Widows administration manager, said: "While it is still fairly common for pensions to be written to a specific age, the policy provisions now allow the member to go early... we think that is the trigger point so far as the Revenue are concerned."

Under these circumstances, a policyholder could only escape the trap if he or she could prove that their failure to exercise their right to retire early was not deliberate, said Mr Sneddon. Only then would the trust remain valid.

It is not known how many personal pensions are used for inheritance tax planning purposes but there can be no doubt that the possibility of doing so increases their attraction.

Alan Steel of the Glasgow-based intermediary, Alan Steel Asset Management, said: "Just about every client we've ever had is written into trust for inheritance tax purposes. It could save 40 per cent, so of course, it adds value to the product."

Although a spokesman for the Inland Revenue would only confirm that it was "in correspondence" with the ABI over the CTO's initiative, there can be little doubt that the Inland Revenue has been looking closely at pension trust law.

Two weeks ago it gave the go-ahead for millions of pre-1980 Section 226 policies to be written under trust retrospectively, thereby reducing inheritance tax bills for policyholders who die intestate. Previously, all death-in-service benefits attached to these contracts had to be paid into the policyholder's estate.

If all goes well, the ABI will secure an extra-statutory concession from the CTO or get the legislation changed. Alternatively, the Inland Revenue's recent generosity could turn out to be little more than a trade-off for a more bitter pill to be swallowed later.

As things stand, industry figures close to the negotiations are unwilling to place bets either way.

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Property dealers urge homeowners to sell at bottom of the market



Brokers: the Waterloo Place offices of London Investment Property Services.

economics who works out capital growth potential over the next three to five years based on a multiple of historic capital growth in the area over 15 to 20 years and rental income growth.

Companies House records show that LIPS was incorporated only last November,

Hill said he would have to consult the senior partners.

A day later, Mr Hill said that because the company was involved in negotiations with a substantial group, which would ultimately take it under its wing, the partners did not feel it was "politic" for them to make any comment.

took on, having only 200 to 300 on its books, but would not say how much business it was doing.

"We are not about to give out facts and figures regarding our company's turnover and income," he added.

Asked for examples of overseas companies investing

ularly to Americans. "Hong Kong is our major market at this time," he said.

Mr Hill qualified Mr Wood's statement that the firm's rental programme would provide sufficient income to service an investment. "It depends on how you quantify servicing an investment," he said. "If someone is borrowing 90 per cent of the price, of course it would not." He estimated that good quality properties would bring in 10 per cent annually in rental income, but noted that various costs would be involved.

Summing up the firm's view of the property market, which he said was shared by "most of the pundits, such as the Halifax", Mr Hill claimed it was not unreasonable to suggest that desirable properties with good income potential would double in value over the next three to five years.

"If they don't, of course, we certainly believe that over three years they will show good appreciation," he said.

To double within three years, house prices would have to rise by 25 per cent a year. To double within five years, the growth rate would have to be 15 per cent a year.

Joe Roseman, a property analyst with UBS Phillips & Drew, forecasts that house prices will finish this year five per cent down on 1989 and rise 10 per cent from that lower level during 1991. He said that in the long run, house prices have tended to rise at the same rate as earnings.

Gary Marsh, the house price specialist at the Halifax Building Society, said the society did not see house price inflation getting back into double figures until 1991 or 1992 and did not expect another boom before the mid-Nineties. Unwilling to give a definite five-year forecast because of factors such as inflation, Mr Marsh said the society had been thinking in terms of a 30 to 50 per cent increase over the next five years.

George Pope, the joint chairman and finance director of John D Wood, the estate agents, said he felt the property market had bottomed out at the end of last year, but he would doubt the intelligence of anyone looking for prices to double within three to five years.

"Nobody has told me there is a galaxy of buyers from abroad," said Mr Pope, noting, however, that his firm had sold several properties to Hong Kong buyers who thought that now was the right time to buy.

Running an active letting service, Mr Pope said an eight or nine per cent gross return from rentals was more realistic than ten per cent, as voids and redecoration periods had to be allowed for.

Tony Copping-Joyce, an estate agent, dismissed LIPS's claims as "pure sales patter". He noted that buying interest from Hong Kong dated back two or three years, but said that the tension in the Gulf and the effect on the dollar made any great influx into the British residential market unlikely.

BARBARA ELLIS

Counting the cost of water rationing

By RODNEY HOBSON

HOUSEHOLDERS contemplating their parched gardens get vastly different treatment from the various water companies when it comes to charging for, and banning, the use of hoses and sprinklers.

Of the ten authorities privatised last year, none charges for hoses but four charge for sprinklers. Wessex has the highest rate at £35, with Welsh asking £26, Thames £25, and Anglian £20.

Thames is the only authority with a total ban on hoses and sprinklers, introduced on August 11. Thames will calculate a pro rata refund when the ban ends, deducting the amount from the next bill to be sent out in April. Anglian introduced a ban on August 10 on the parts of its area that rely on

ground water, with about 500,000 of its 3.8 million users affected.

Those subject to the restriction are sure of a 50 per cent rebate on the surcharge, but if the ban lasts for more than two months they will get all the sprinkler charge back.

Payment will be made automatically, but Anglian has not yet decided whether to send out cheques or deduct the refund from the next bill.

Welsh has a sprinkler ban in just one area east of Brecon. The single restriction was enforced by the National Rivers Authority because of the low level of a stream below a reservoir.

Welsh refunds half the sprinkler licence fee if the ban lasts for more than one month and the whole fee for

a two-month ban. Licence holders have to apply for the refund.

Wessex, in the wettest west of England, has no ban so far. If one became necessary, the company has promised a refund would be made.

Policy among the smaller water companies varies. For example, Bristol charges £12.50 for a hosepipe and £13 for a sprinkler, while Bourne-mouth imposes an extra £12 for a hosepipe and £19 for a sprinkler.

If restrictions are needed, Bourne-mouth regards April to September as the sprinkler season, so a one-month ban would mean refunding one sixth of the fee.

There is a move towards dropping the hosepipe charge, mainly to save administrative costs. Eastbourne has

scrapped its charges this year and even long-suffering Mid Kent, awaiting a decent downpour for more than a year, makes no charge for hoses although it has retained its sprinkler fee of £21.50.

Even that is looking academic. A ban has been in force for all the current year.

Last year's ban resulted in a refund on this year's bill and the company is considering whether to follow a similar policy this time.

Many consumers are saving themselves from restrictions by co-operating in saving water.

North West, for example, says: "We have asked people where possible to avoid using hoses and sprinklers and we have had good co-operation."

Multi-million pound success story the City chooses to ignore

A young Indian woman, in London for a series of operations to restore her sight, walked unannounced into the Baker Street offices of Swraj Paul's Caparo Group. The woman, a stranger, showed him unpaid hospital bills amounting to £4,000. He studied them and then wrote out a cheque to the hospital concerned.

Five minutes later the woman returned, this time in tears. "You don't know me, you don't know if this is genuine, I can't accept your money," Paul reassured her and she took the cheque.

Two years later the same woman left a valuable piece of jewellery for Paul at his offices in Delhi as a thank-you gift, and four years after that he returned it to her, when she again made contact with him there.

"She telephoned me because a friend had told her that I was in town and we met," Paul, aged 59, recalls. "I was able to return her jewellery. Her eye sight had been completely restored. The pleasure that that gave me was far greater than having another £4,000 in the bank."

Strangers approach Paul for money almost daily. He is, after all, worth about £100 million. Sometimes they simply want advice. An Asian shopkeeper, perhaps, contemplating divorce. "I almost always agree to see them," he says. "And if they are in genuine need, I always give them something. Or try to help save their marriage." But Paul refuses to disclose what proportion of his income he gives away to such charitable causes. And he shrugs his shoulders when I warn him that he will now be inundated with requests.

Yet despite his high personal net worth, which makes him one of the most successful Indian businessmen in Britain, all those requests for assistance and advice come from fellow Asians. They voted him Asian businessman of the year in 1987. And they remember him as one of Indira Gandhi's few real friends. He turned down her invitation to become India's high commissioner in London — "I feel more comfortable in my office or on the factory floor, that's the only place I really relax" — and so she honoured him with the equivalent of a peerage instead. But most Britons have never heard of him.

He has a publicly quoted subsidiary, Caparo Industries, which is 78 per cent owned by his private vehicle, Caparo Group. But even though Caparo Industries is capitalised at more than £50 million in its own right, few professional investment advisers in the City follow him. The balance of his private interests, excluding that 78 per cent stake, are also worth more than £50 million.

His interests range from a steel tubing plant in Ebbw Vale, Gwent and a joint venture steel mill with British Steel in Scunthorpe, to tea plantations in India and consumer electronics, in the form of Armstrong Equipment which he took over last November after a bid battle.

"He is pictured as a sort of shadowy Indian figure, quietly building up his business, a sort of industrial equivalent to the corner shop," says one City analyst. But few corner shopkeepers can claim to be worth £100 million.

Admittedly, most people in the Square Mile do ignore him and his industrial efforts, the same analyst adds candidly: "I suppose,

By CAROL LEONARD BUSINESS PROFILE

Swraj Paul

basically, people are reluctant to follow an Indian. Perhaps you had better call it City conservatism. Or a certain reserve. Racism? "I suppose so."

It should also be borne in mind, of course, that since 78 per cent of Caparo Industries is in private hands, the market in its shares is extremely tight.

Those who have encountered Paul aver to his unfailing politeness. He is the sort of man who puts people instantly at their ease. They acknowledge his success in an unfashionable and unglamorous sector — steel — one which was hitherto monopolised by a nationalised industry. Their only real reservations are about the

'For every success you must have a failure, it's part of life. And we have had our disasters'

inter-relationship between his publicly-quoted concern and his private vehicle. "You could argue that there might be a question of where his ultimate loyalties lie," says one.

The British establishment perhaps remembers Paul best for his tussle with the hi-fi group Fidelity. He took it over in 1984 for £14 million. But it was a deal he would live to regret. Four years later he cut his losses and closed it. He took Touche Ross to court, claiming that the company's audited accounts had painted a misleadingly optimistic picture. The case went to the House of Lords, reaching its conclusion in February this year. Paul lost. The ruling concluded that an auditor's responsibility was to the company, and not its shareholders.

"In my view it is very sad that the question of whether or not they were negligent was never tried — only the question of their responsibility," says Paul.

"For every success you must have a failure, it's part of life. And we have had our disasters." But Paul has vowed never to attempt to diversify again. "From now on we will stick only to what we know."

But takeover deals apart, and whether the British establishment wants to look for it or not, there is another side to Swraj Paul. Unusually for such a successful businessman, his life has been governed by his Hindu beliefs. And it manifests itself in his attitude towards money more than anything else.

Brought to Britain in 1966 when his two-year-old daughter Ambika needed medical treatment for leukaemia, Paul decided to stay when she died two years later. "I felt that since she had died here, her spirit was still here, and I didn't want to leave."

After a traditional 18-month period of mourning and meditation, known as sanyas, he turned

his back on a comfortable life-style and flourishing family business in India. It was then, in 1968, that he branched out on his own in London, with a one-roomed office in Chiswell Street in the City.

"I borrowed £5,000 and started buying and selling steel, from country to country. It was something I knew about from our business in India and I didn't need much capital to do it. But in those early days we went through very difficult times," he says.

"We had been used to servants and suddenly we had to do everything ourselves. I only bought my first car — an Austin — in 1976, because I kept putting all the money back into the business." He now drives a BMW and jests that he still cannot afford a Rolls-Royce. And when one of his three old Harrovian sons once wanted a Ferrari he refused to agree to it.

"I have immense faith in God and I believe in destiny," explains Paul, who spends six or seven minutes every morning saying his prayers. "Why was the daughter I loved so much taken away from me? Why did I decide to stay in London? God has been very kind to me. I never thought I would get where I am. A lot of people work far harder than I do and don't do as well. It must be the work of a higher hand. Without that there is no point."

He has lived in the same apartment, opposite Broadcasting House in Portland Place, since he arrived in London. Except that he now owns the entire block, has renamed it Ambika House, and occupies two penthouse flats there as well. He needs the space to accommodate his four children when they visit. But the apartments are unostentatious. And unlike most men in his position, he shuns chauffeur-driven cars. "I usually walk to work," he says. He also goes for a daily hour-long walk in Regent's Park before work. "Sometimes on my own or sometimes with a friend who lives nearby. It's good exercise and it gives me time to think."

His philosophy about money is simple. "I have never considered that it belongs to me. I am its trustee and must use it to create more wealth. I believe you must have respect for money, and should not go about wasting it and showing off. But if a person comes to me and is deserving, then I will give."

A life-long vegetarian, Paul has never smoked or drunk alcohol. He consumes vast quantities of top grade tea instead, supplied by his 13 "tea gardens". Dargling is his favourite and he drinks it with milk and low-calorie sweeteners. "We Indians are more British than the British, you know," he says with a wry smile.

Educated at a Christian school in India — "simply because it was the nearest school available" — and then at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in Boston, he was one of seven children and was raised by two of his older brothers.

He first learned English at the age of ten and still speaks with a heavy Indian accent. "My mother died in child birth, when I was seven, and my father died when I was 13. But my eldest brother was 13 years older than me and so he filled the gap left by my parents. I didn't really miss them. It was a very good childhood." But he can, he says, remember his father



Unconventional match: Swraj Paul and his wife of 34 years, Aruna, at their London home. "I arranged the marriage myself," he says

clearly. "He was a fine man, very principled and a great disciplinarian. If ever I told a lie it was a great crime."

Yet despite his strict adherence to his faith, Paul did not submit himself to an arranged marriage. "I arranged it myself," he says. He married Aruna, the mother of twin sons Ambar and Akash, his other daughter, Roodean-educated Anjali, and youngest son, Angad, 34 years ago.

"My relatives were uneasy at first," he admits. Given his upbringing it was, after all, an unconventional relationship. He met her when she gate-crashed a party at his family home. "She came with a person who was sort of engaged to her at the time." Even then, and despite his re-

ligious beliefs, he clearly enjoyed a challenge. "She has some very strong views and it would be dull if we never had any arguments, but

'People work far harder than I do and don't do as well. It must be the work of a higher hand'

we still love each other very much." But, like father, like son, he too has been a strict disciplinarian

with his own children. They continue to call him "daddy" and their mother "mummy". And they do not drink alcohol or eat meat in front of him.

He commands such respect by uncommon means. "I can honestly say that I have never heard my father raise his voice," says 20-year-old Angad. "It would be easier if he did shout, then you could shout back. But you know you're in trouble if he stops smiling — he normally smiles all the time."

Angad, a student at MIT who speaks with a true Harrovian accent, also reveals that his father often intimidates his friends. "They usually meet him in the evenings, when he has been at work all day. He is a very quiet

man but with a very intense stare. And he always asks them questions like 'What are your goals?'. But my friends don't have any goals yet. They are just thankful to be alive."

Paul blushes as his son speaks. A humble man, he at first denies that he has ever encountered racism. He does not like to talk about it. But he quite plainly has. "I just ignore it. They are just ignorant people." And he speaks about Britain as "home".

"The quality of life here is the best in the world. There is something sober and solid about it and the pace of life is just right. I'm a very proud Indian but I'm also proud to be British and I find no conflict in that at all."

Cleaning up in the water shortage

WALTER Barrows has been a professional gardener for more than 30 years but now spends much of his time spray painting the brown, arid lawns of drought-struck Santa Barbara, so they look green and lush.

John Price was stopped so often by householders wanting his car wash water to irrigate their flowers that he set up in the water business and now has five lorries and more than 400 regular customers.

Santa Barbara, home to the very rich and often quite famous — the locals include Essam Khashoggi, the Saudi financier, and, for ten days a month, Harold Simmons, the corporate raider — is in its seventh year of drought and there is no sign of rain.

Mr Simmons was fined \$25,000 last year for ignoring water restrictions and keeping his 23-acre estate lush with enough water to supply the average family of four for 28 years.

Things are not quite that bad in the desert town of Los Angeles, where palm trees were imported to help lift the property market and water has to travel 600 miles from source to tap.

But LA is in its fourth drought year and has been warned: cut consumption by 10 per cent or face tougher legal restrictions on use.

There are already half a dozen rules to cut consumption which include: no hosing down of drives and pavements (these have to be swept with a broom), no lawn watering between 10am and 5pm (when the temperature ensures that half the water evaporates anyway), all decorative water (fountains) must be recycled, all leaks repaired as soon as possible, and no diner may be given a glass of iced water (automatic in most restaurants) unless it is requested.

These limp restrictions are enforced by a team of 25 from the water department

CAPITAL CITY

FROM PHILIP ROBINSON IN LOS ANGELES



Dyeing art: grass is given a green rinse

known as Drought Busters and viewed by the locals as a fairly toothless watchdog.

Since they started prowling for water wasters three months ago each of the 25 has given an educational finger wagging to 228 residents, officially warned 138 and only seven householders have been cited for a second offence and will have \$50 added to their next bill, which usually averages about \$25.17 a month.

According to water department figures, a 10 per cent cut in consumption

for the average householder, whose daily water usage is estimated at 110 gallons, would mean making an eight minute instead of a ten minute shower, turning off the tap between applying toothbrush to teeth and rinsing, or buying a low-flush toilet (water use 1.6 gallons instead of 5 gallons and the department offers \$100 cash as an incentive).

Hundreds of gallons could be saved by not using the dishwasher (30 gallons), washing machine (45 to 60 gallons), turning off the hose between soaping the car and clearing the suds (10 gallons a minute) or watering the lawn (350 gallons).

Through a slow southern draw, an official of the Metropolitan Water District encapsulated the state's problem in fewer than 30 words: "Two-thirds of the water in California is in the north and two-thirds of the people who want to use it live in the south."

The Metropolitan authority, a sort of water wholesaler to six counties with 15 million consumers, says the position is becoming critical. Last year it delivered 815 million gallons of water.

"If we go into a fifth year of drought there will have to be sharp cutbacks and we'll start offering incentives for people to take less water. We haven't got enough in storage to last us a year," the official said.

Lawn-dyeing Mr Barrows added: "Storage is exactly the problem. There have always been these hare-brained ideas about towing icebergs from Alaska to bring water to the desert, but no one has addressed the real problem of how we can store water when we get it."

But while Southern California prays for rain, Mr Barrows has tripled the price of his lush lawn services. In May he charged \$45 to dye the average size lawn a rich green. That rise now costs \$135 and lasts just under two months.

"DO YOU know my friend Mr Betts? I wish I could remember as accurately as he forgets."

Ogden Nash may have thought he had problems with his memory when he wrote these lines half a century ago, but at least he never had to worry about cash machines and personal identification numbers (PINs).

With the proliferation of plastic cards, many of us now have more than one PIN to commit to memory and we take seriously the threat that PINs must never be disclosed to another person or written down. That is where the trouble starts.

Remembering one four-digit sequence is not difficult, and simpler than remembering a telephone number. But, once you have two or three random PINs, there is plenty of scope for confusion. Or worse — watching your precious piece of plastic slide inexorably into the teller machine.

Cash machines, dispensing money night and day, are a boon as long as everything is operating in a perfect world. Unfortunately, reality rules and machines break down, admittedly less often than they used to, or run out of money and we forget our PINs.

To date, I have never withdrawn cash on my credit card, so I have never used the Visa PIN. But as this would be a useful fallback on holiday, I wanted to check whether I had remembered the number correctly. I thought I could try twice without risk. Not surprisingly, the number I

When recalling your PIN card code becomes a numbers game

keyed was wrong, but Barclaycard gave me no second chance. Although I was not even trying to withdraw money, the card was swallowed immediately.

This, I was subsequently assured by Barclaycard, should not have happened. Something had gone wrong. Barclaycard holders, like everyone else, are usually granted three attempts to remember the right number. Unfortunately, at the very moment I was testing my memory, it seemed the cash machine was suffering computer problems, which shortened the odds. The bank could not explain why it only gave me one chance, but its computer record confirmed that it had. Maybe I had tried the number on other machines that day, ventured the bank. The machines allow three bad numbers a day, not per dispenser, said a spokesman. But the answer was I had only tried the one and was wishing I had not.

Barclaycard's Northampton office confirmed what the branch had told me: the unbreakable rule is that confiscated cards are cleared out of the machine the following morning, cut up and returned to Northampton from where a new card would be issued.

With luck and the Post Office on my side, I could receive a new card two days later. I did not have that much time to wait. I went back to the branch, explained the urgency and begged them not to cut up my card. If the next morning I could prove I was who I claimed to be, they said, they would return the card in one piece.

Like an alcoholic outside a pub before opening time, I was on the doorstep at 9.25 am. They were true to their word and, although I still have no idea of the PIN, I can pay for my holiday on credit with the back up of Barclaycard's international rescue if the card is lost, and purchase cover insurance if anything I buy is damaged or stolen.

There are three circumstances in which cash machines will gobble a card: the card has been reported stolen, the magnetic strip has been damaged — perhaps wiped clean by a magnet — or the PIN is wrongly entered three times.

Some cards give customers the opportunity to change the PIN to any number they find easy to remember on the very first occasion the card is used in a machine. If all of them did this, you could have the same PIN for all your cards.

Barclays does not, although they may in future if there is enough customer demand.

There are, in fact, ways of writing down a PIN in a disguised form to jog poor memories. It is not safe, however, to write the number on the back of the credit card, as Save & Prosper has found some people doing.

Neither should you disclose the number to any other person, even a close friend who offers to get you some cash in the lunch hour. If you do, you become liable for all losses on the card if anything goes wrong.

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SUMMARY

Unit trusts in the doldrums

WITH or without the Gulf crisis, managers of UK unit trusts are making little headway. Only six of the 364 UK funds had showed a gain in the year to August, making it all the more important for investors to adopt a long-term view. Page 38

The quiet man



Swraj Paul, head of Caparo Group, is one of Britain's wealthiest men and yet most people have never heard of him. But as Carol Leonard discovers, he is now busy giving away much of that fortune. Page 43

Point of interest

Savers who have not dusted off their building society pass books for some time should check that the interest rate they are being paid is still competitive. One reader found out that he could have been earning 50 per cent more interest without even moving societies. Page 40

Your Views



The pitfalls of changing credit cards catch the eye of *Weekend Money* readers, along with the dangers of bankers drafts and the problem of buildings surveys which list faults which do not exist. Page 41

Futures option

Unit trust investors will soon have their first taste of funds that invest in futures and options. Yet many managers oppose the funds, which will open more speculative investment to the mass market for the first time. Page 38

Under offer

House sellers have been intrigued by an offer from an international property broker encouraging them to sell now while prices are low so that foreign buyers can profit from a sudden surge in the value. Page 42

Pensions threat

All personal pensions taken out since July 1988 could fall foul of the Inheritance Tax Act under a recent ruling. The pensions industry is seeking urgent clarification. Page 42

Number misery

Credit and cash card users could find their cards are cut up if they forget their personal numbers. Page 43

BUSINESS

Pound slumps

Sterling slumped on world markets yesterday amid rumours that the government plans to join the exchange rate mechanism of the European Monetary System this weekend at a rate of DM2.93. By the close in London the pound's average value was down 1.2 at 95 while against the dollar it was down 2.8 cents at \$1.8930 and against the mark down 2.53 pence at DM2.9833. City economists said the fall in sterling made it still less likely that the chancellor would cut interest rates. Page 33

Parents braced for double-figure rise in school fees

The cost of private education is increasing dramatically
Lindsay Cook
Money Editor,
takes a look at the new terms

THE parents of some 600,000 children face a hefty increase in fees when the new term begins at independent schools next week. A Weekend Money survey of some of the schools has revealed increases of up to 17.2 per cent on last year's fees. Only one school reported an increase in single figures.

This is on top of average rises last year of 11.7 per cent, which was then the highest recorded by the Independent Schools Information Service's (ISIS) annual survey. Richard Davison, the service's deputy director, expects a higher average increase in the next survey.

Parents of boarders at Marlborough College face a £1,395 rise to £9,495 a year plus £53 a term for music lessons and extra for excursions. Winchester College, up 14.3 per cent, is charging boarders £9,900 and day pupils £7,425. Musical instruction costs a further £94 a term.

Carmel College in Oxfordshire has a list of 40 items for which parents can be charged extra, ranging from music lessons at £75 a term to instruction for Duke of Edinburgh awards and coach transport to and from London. The school charges overseas boarders £11,700 a year and British ones £10,125.

David Jewell, chairman of the Headmasters' Conference, complained earlier this year that school fees were being inflated by up to 20 per cent by extra charges. These are levied in some cases for pens, pencils and textbooks. Last year, when fees averaged £2,500 a term, extras could add up to £500. This can come as a shock for "first-time buyers" of independent education: the parents who were state educated. A separate ISIS survey showed that 40 per cent of first year pupils were the children of parents who had not attended independent schools. From 1979 to 1989 the proportion of pupils in independent education increased from 5.8 per cent of all pupils to 7.3 per cent.

Despite the high cost of private education, a large proportion of the parents sending children to independent schools for the first time this autumn will not have invested in advance specifically to meet the fees.

ISIS found that 69 per cent of parents had not planned for the fees. Those who had set aside money were mostly former pupils of independent schools. But even those who had made some financial preparation had not built up

sufficient funds to meet the fees by the time their child started school. The rapid increase in fees will partly account for this.

The survey showed 85 per cent of parents would be using their salary or other income to pay fees. Help came from the state, with 8 per cent receiving aid from the assisted places scheme. The schools themselves help in the form of scholarships and bursaries to 9 per cent of pupils. Employers, including the armed forces and diplomatic service, made a contribution to 5 per cent of pupils. Trust funds from other relatives helped 7 per cent and from parents 5 per cent. Fourteen per cent of parents had taken out insurance schemes.

Fees are usually due on the first day of term and David Vellacott of Winchester College, who is chairman of the Bursars' Association, said parents rarely did not pay on time. "Most are dipping into capital one way or another. Few can afford to pay for fees out of taxed income."

Schools are often able to help. Many have trust funds which can help towards fees where, for example, a father dies or is made redundant. At Winchester 25 per cent of boys receive help from the school in the form of scholarships, exhibitions or trust funds.

The government's assisted places scheme was improved last week in England and Wales and at the beginning of August in Scotland. Parents of children who win one of the 33,000 places available at independent schools now pay nothing towards the fees if their "relevant income" is below £8,200. Relevant income is the gross pay before tax less £1,000 for each child or dependent relative other than the pupil. The assistance is available on a

sliding scale above this. Last year about 6,000 places went unclaimed because of low demand in some areas. At Wellington in Berkshire, where day pupils pay £6,725 a year, some of the nine assisted places offered were not filled last year. Details of the scheme are available from ISIS at 56 Buckingham Gate, London SW1E 6AG. Information on Scottish schools can be obtained from Scottish ISIS at 22 Hanover Street, Edinburgh EH2 2EP.

Parents in some parts of the country feel forced into the fee paying sector earlier. In some cases it is lack of good state primary schools or adequate nursery facilities. In others it is the high demand for secondary school places at independent schools that encourages parents to try to give their children an advantage by sending them to a senior school's prep school.

Parents can pay hundreds of pounds in registration fees without any guarantee of getting a place. The fees usually start at £25 and are to cover the administration costs of writing to parents and providing them with information about the school. Some prep schools in areas of high demand charge £100. This is intended to make sure the parents are serious about their child attending the school. Some parents register their children with several schools.

According to the school fee planning companies, their clients usually start to save for fees three or four years ahead of a child starting school. At the School Fees Insurance Agency in Maidenhead, Berkshire, demand for school fee planning was at an all time high in July and early August. Parents invested lump sums totalling £5 million during six weeks.

Under its capital sum scheme, investment of £36,715 is needed to provide fees starting at £4,026 a term in 1995 for five years. The expected total fees would be £73,743 if they increase on average by 10 per cent a year.

Save & Prosper calculates that a lump sum of £14,100 would provide £1,000 a term for 15 terms starting now. Anyone putting money aside for a child starting school in five years' time would need to invest £8,853 to provide £1,000 a term.

For parents who do not have savings and cannot pay for fees out of earnings, National Westminster Bank offers loans secured on the value of their homes in a scheme organised with ISIS. High interest rates and falling property values have reduced the popularity of the scheme in the last year or so. Up to 80 per cent of the value of the home including the original mortgage can be borrowed. An endowment policy is taken out to pay back the loan after 10 or 25 years and interest is charged at 2.5 per cent above the bank's base rate.

This currently makes the rate 17.5 per cent. A £100 arrangement fee, plus another fee of £150, are levied at the outset but no interest is charged until the parents draw down money from the account.

BOARDING SCHOOL FEES

School	Last Year	This Year	% Increase
Marlborough	£8,100	£9,495	17.2
Winchester	£8,658	£9,900	14.3
Wellington	£6,220	£9,375	50.1
Harrow	£9,000	£10,200	13.3
Roddean	£8,475	£9,585	13.0
Stowe	£8,658	£9,786	13.0
Oundle	£8,700	£9,825	12.9
Charterhouse	£8,700	£9,795	12.6
Carnel	£9,030	£10,125	12.1
Clifton	£8,310	£9,300	11.9
Repton	£7,850	£8,820	11.8
Cobham Hall	£8,700	£9,570	10.0
Gordonstoun	£7,776	£8,700	11.9
Eton	£8,486	£9,386	10.6
Westminster	£8,850	£9,600	8.5

Governors urged to check cover as law is changed

As the new school year begins,
Helen Pridham
looks at the effect of reforms in British education

SCHOOL governors should be considering whether they have adequate legal cover before the new school term starts, following the new powers bestowed on them by parliament.

The introduction of local management of schools under the Education Reform Act has given school governors a whole new range of responsibilities. It also leaves them vulnerable to being sued for negligence by parents.

If such claims are successful, governors could be held personally liable for any damages or costs awarded.

Although local education authorities are providing some insurance cover for governors, investigations by organisations such as Action for Governors Information and Training (Agit) show that the scope of this cover varies considerably between authorities. In almost all cases it is incomplete.

John Jennings, insurance expert for the London Borough of Enfield, said: "Action taken by governors without the backing of the LEA, for example, is not likely to be covered. Even where cover is provided, governors may have to pay the first part of any claim themselves, such as under our libel and slander policy where the governor would have to bear 10 per cent of any sum payable."

A libel and slander claim could arise from an event such as the exclusion of a pupil from school. The policy endorsed by Agit has been drawn up in conjunction with Alexander Stenhouse, the insurance broker. It offers protection

for claims made against the governing body, or a governor, alleging a wrongful act or omission in the discharge of their administrative duties.

The cover of £250,000 includes the cost of legal defence of such claims. It also provides protection against the legal costs of defending a prosecution under the Health and Safety at Work Act of up to £50,000. Public liability cover of up to £1 million is also given against claims arising from third party injury or property damage not covered by the LEA policy. The cost is £20 per governor per year.

The National Association of Governors and Managers (Nagman) offers a similar policy, underwritten by Nelson Hurst & Marsh, the Lloyd's broker. It also provides the same three types of cover, but these have to be purchased separately. The main cover is for errors and omissions, which also gives protection against loss of money or property as a consequence of any fraudulent

acts by a governor. The cost of Nagman's policy is related to the size of the school rather than the governing body, ranging from £100 for schools with up to 99 pupils for errors and omissions cover of £250,000, to £200 for schools of 600 or more.

The first £250 of any errors and omissions or legal expenses claims must be paid by the governing body. On property claims under the public liability extension there is a £100 excess.

A much cheaper policy is offered by the National Confederation of Parent-Teacher Associations. This scheme, underwritten by Sun Alliance, costs only £7.50 per governor and provides professional indemnity cover of up to £1 million per claim in respect of errors or omissions, libel and slander, and dishonesty of another governor or employee. Public liability cover of up to £1 million is also included.

"Our initial concern was for parent governors, but we decided to extend the cover to any governor as it makes most sense when the whole governing body is insured," said George Whiting, the association's insurance secretary. For school governors who want to cover every possible insurance eventuality, Norman Frizzell, the insurance broker, is offering a package that will protect against everything from malicious damage to school equipment, to funding supply cover when teachers are off sick.

The minimum premium per school is £1,000.



Best days of your life: Harrow schoolboys in their traditional uniform of blazer and boater

Pupils insured against injury

PLAYGROUNDS, school laboratories and sports fields can be dangerous places, but most state and independent schools do not carry insurance to cover children injured during the school day, nor for accidents on the way home or during the holidays.

In the course of a year more than one million children are treated for accidents, with 120,000 admitted to hospital. Such accidents can cause permanent disability but, thankfully, they are rare, which means that the cost of insurance to parents can be less

than 50p a week for cover of up to £200,000 if a child is disabled. Usually children can be covered from the age of 4 to 19, so long as they are in full-time education and the insurance continues outside school hours.

Brown Shipley's pupils' personal accident scheme, which is approved by the National Confederation of Parent-Teacher Associations, costs £25 a year per pupil to provide maximum cover of £200,000. Premiums of £12 a year provide £50,000 cover. Norwich Union's children's personal ac-

cident insurance will pay out up to £110,000 for total disablement. The policy costs £25 a year.

Personal Assurance of Milton Keynes offers a policy for children that pays out a lump sum plus a benefit of up to £900 a month while the child is in hospital. At £20 a half year the maximum lump sum is £50,000 and the cash benefit is limited to £5,400. When the premiums are doubled so are the maximum benefits.

The personal hospital plan also covers children in hospital long-term through illness.

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